



THE TIMES 1785-1985

Tomorrow

Sitting pretty The smart girl's guide to success in big business Inside Congress America's talking shop that can make or break the President Double interest How to put the stamp on your investments High flyers The brothers who battle for Britain at the world ski championships

Portfolio

There is £4,000 available in today's Times Portfolio competition, because yesterday's daily £2,000 prize was not won. Portfolio list, page 14, how to play, information service, back page.

Nato ships attacked in Lisbon

The left-wing Portuguese terrorist group FP-23 claimed responsibility for an attack on the British frigate Arethusa and six other Nato ships moored in Lisbon harbour.

Three missiles, probably grenades, were fired but none of the ships was hit and no one was hurt.

Porteria's terms

South Africa is ready to talk to the banned African National Congress provided its first abundance talks to the Pretoria government is explained in response to Mr Nelson Mandela's attack.

Laundry conflict

South Cambodia health authorities have been ordered to send its workers to a private contractor, although a local hospital's tender for the job was £30,000 cheaper.

Stansted backed

Healthrow cannot cope with London's air traffic into the next decade, even with a fifth terminal, the Civil Aviation Authority says in a report supporting the expansion of Stansted.

Vienna anger

Senior officers in the Austrian Army have sharply criticized the Defence Minister for meeting a Nazi war criminal newly released from jail.

Hanoi dilemma

Vietnam, in desperate need of Western economic aid, is being forced to weigh the advantages of staying in Cambodia against pleasing the West by withdrawal.

Bomb trial

A farmer tried to blow up his wife to claim £100,000 in insurance, then killed a neighbour to make him the scapegoat for the bomb plot, a court was told.

Kinnock meeting

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, is to meet President Alfonsin in Athens on Thursday.

£2m for athletics

Kodak are to put £2 million into athletics over the next five years, the biggest sponsorship of the sport in Britain.

Leader page, 11

Letters: On miners, from Admiral Sir James Eberle and others; low pay, from Mr C Pond. Leading articles: Tebbitt and investors; pit strike victims; Birmingham's Grand Prix. Features, pages 8-10. David Owen's way forward in the Middle East; Truth, A-test casualty; Roger Scruton dials 999 for our threatened phone boxes. Tuesday Page: working women who learnt to cope. Fashion: high tech hijack. Classified, pages 22 to 24. Legal appointments. Computer horizons, pages 18, 19. A British industry heading for self-destruction? Apple wants a bite of the corporate market; the robot holiday going where no man can.

Obituary, page 12

Kenny Clarke, Dr Michael Okpara.

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Bridge, Business, Court, Crossword, Diary, Law Report, Night Sky, Parliament, Sale Rooms, Sports, Snow reports, TV & Radio, Theatres, etc, Weather.

Financial markets in turmoil as base rates rise

The High Street banks raised base rates from 12 to 14 per cent yesterday, the third rise since January 11. Industry's annual borrowing costs have risen by £1.2 billion this month. The building societies meet on February 7 to discuss a mortgage rate rise.

The Chancellor defended the rise and said that "anxieties have been greatly overcome." An estimated £7 billion was off London share prices at one stage. Financial markets thrown into confusion.

By David Smith and Philip Robinson

The high street banks put up their base rates by two points yesterday, as the pound came under pressure amid oil price uncertainties. Financial markets were thrown into turmoil in what the City described as "Black Monday."

Share prices plunged as base rates were raised from 12 to 14 per cent. It was the third rise in just over a fortnight and borrowing costs have jumped by a half since January 11, when base rates were 9½ per cent.

The latest jump in base rates had only a muted effect on the pound, which closed 17 points down at \$1.1115, the sterling index falling 0.1 to a new closing low of 70.5. Later in New York, the pound rose to £1.1175.

Mortgages are likely to cost more, building societies said. The societies meet on February 7 and if there is no sign of an early fall in base rates, a 1 per cent point rise is likely.

The base rate move, which came at noon, was led by Barclays. A spokesman for the bank said the rise was because of higher money market rates and pressure on the pound.

The Bank of England endorsed the new level of base rates by raising its own money market dealing rates, but the base rate increase, it was stressed, was led by the markets.

This contrasted with two weeks ago, when the Bank of England led the clearing banks into a base rate increase by introducing a minimum lending rate.

Yesterday's rise came as sterling had shown vulnerability in early trading. It was quoted at \$1.1055 and the sterling index fell to 70.3 immediately before the base rate announcement.

The main factor was uncertainty over oil prices, as oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries met in Geneva. The meeting was stormy and at one stage Dr Mansour bin Odeh, the minister of the United Arab Emirates, walked out.

Mr Alfred Roth, chief foreign exchange dealer with Chemical Bank in New York, said the rise in base rates had demonstrated official concern over the pound but left underlying sentiment on sterling unaffected.

Mr David Morrison, currency economist with the stockbroking firm of Simon & Coates, said a rise in base rates was the "wrong tool" to use against a run on the pound generated by concern on oil prices.

He, along with many foreign exchange operators, was surprised that the Bank of England did not intervene in the markets yesterday to support the pound, rather than letting interest rates rise.

Amid the confusion, financial markets were highly volatile yesterday. Share prices fell on fears that the new level of interest rates - easily the highest ever in real terms - and the threat of an austerity Budget in March, would stop the economic recovery in its tracks.

Stocks and shares had their worst day for months. At one point the Financial Times index measuring Britain's 30 top companies registered a 44.1 point fall, the worst on record. More than £7 billion was wiped off share values in just four hours' trading.

Most had staged a mild rally by the close. Wall Street opened firmer and American buyers came into the London market helping to lift prices. FT index ended off the bottom but down 24.9 points at 977.9. The wider FT-SE 100 index, down 45 at one point, closed 22.2 off at 1265.

In the gilt market trading was suspended for 45 minutes at midday, allowing dealers to adjust prices. Gilt fell to 44 at one point, the worst single fall for several years, but a firmer pound helped prices to recover, although these still closed down £2 ½.

A heavy early morning rush to hedge bets in the London International Financial Futures Exchange forced the rare suspension of trading in two contracts. Traders who use the futures market to hedge investments taken in other markets were desperate to liquidate during early trading as interest rates threatened to rise. The market hit record trading volumes.

Business news, page 15-17

Timetable of the day

- 9.15am: Money market rates opened sharply higher on sterling and Opec uncertainties, shares marked down.
10am: The FT 30-share index closed 25.5 points down at 978.2.
11.55am: Dr Mansour bin Odeh, the United Arab Emirates oil minister, left the Opec conference in Geneva.
Noon: Barclays raised base rates from 12 to 14 per cent. Rise endorsed at 12.30 by the Bank of England. Sterling index hit a low of 70.3 on the noon calculation. Dealing in gilt suspended from 12 to 12.45.
2pm: Shares down further - 44.1 at 958.7.
3pm: Sterling steady; index closed at 70.5. Wall Street opens stronger, shares close 24.9 points down on the day, the FT 30-share index at 977.9.

Annual cost to industry is £540m

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Industry leaders refused to be panicked by yesterday's rise in interest rates although there are clear signs that the cumulative rise of 4½ per cent in recent weeks could put the hard-won economic recovery into reverse.

Most business opinion was that if the new interest rate was short-lived and came down in stages to its previous level by the spring, then the impact would be minimal. But persistently high levels could damage investment and jobs.

Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, which has supported government attempts to bolster the pound, said the base rate rise was no help to industry and had no internal justification, "but step have to be made to combat international speculation against sterling in the short term."

The cost to industry of the latest rise in interest rates is put at £540 million in a full year and it is therefore urgent that rates returned to normal as soon as possible, Sir Terence said.

Mr Graham Mather, head of the policy unit at the Institute of Directors, said there was "no panic or consternation" among members. But the rise demonstrated how catastrophic it would be for the Government to embark on a big programme of infrastructure investment.

"The events of recent days have shown the fragility of the economic recovery," he said. Export industries that have been helped by the falling value of the pound may now find that higher base rates will put up the prices of imported raw materials.

Lawson reaffirms resolve on inflation

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, defended the 2 per cent rise on bank base rates yesterday as necessary to avoid "any risks of misapprehension as to our continuing resolve to conquer inflation."

Questioned for nearly two hours on the exchange rate by the Treasury select committee of MPs, Mr Lawson said that "anxieties over sterling have been greatly overcome" and that the "fundamental problem remains the excessive strength of the dollar," which all the five finance ministers of the world's major economies now agreed was overvalued.

However, he admitted that there were two other factors behind sterling's renewed weakness, namely uncertainty over oil prices and "some feeling in the markets that the Government was no longer giving sufficient priority to maintaining downward pressure on inflation."

In a clear attempt to turn the tide of opinion on favour of sterling, Mr Lawson said that the new level of 14 per cent bank base rates "represents a degree of financial tightness which may not yet have been fully appreciated by the markets."

Mr Lawson told the committee that the new agreement on currency intervention by top finance ministers and central banks was intended to "demonstrate our concern" about the dollar and "show the two-way risks in foreign exchange dealing."

However, he said that substantial concerted intervention ("and I am not talking in penny numbers") has only taken place once, on January 15.

Mr Lawson said after the hearing that no concerted intervention had taken place yesterday, despite the pound's fall to new lows in the morning, but that unilateral intervention by different central banks, including the Bank of England, had taken place on other days than January 15.

Mr Lawson said that the new intervention agreement clinched in Washington 11 days ago represented a clear change of position by the United States, which had previously only been prepared openly to endorse intervention when markets could be said to be "disorderly."

He said that the Government's attitude to the exchange rate was entirely consistent with its earlier policy, and said he always had "taken account" of movements in sterling. He refused to agree that there was now a floor below which the Government would not let sterling fall, but said it would not be "appropriate" for it to rise against the dollar.

The Chancellor refused to speculate on how long the new level of interest rates would have to last.

When are we going to be rich enough to borrow money?

Briton freed by rebels in Sudan after 343 days

From Paul Vallyly, Addis Ababa

A British engineer was released yesterday after being held for 343 days by guerrillas in southern Sudan.

Mr Ian Bain, a construction technician from Morayshire, was one of four hostages freed after almost a year of negotiation between his French employer, the International Construction Company, and Sudanese Christian rebels. He arrived in Paris last night.

Mr Bain was released with two French technicians, M Yves Parisse and M Michel Dupire, and a Kenyan, Mr Gwynn Morson.

Third test-tube quads born

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Britain's second set of test-tube quads and the third in the world were born yesterday at Hammersmith Hospital, west London, to Mrs Christel Walsh, aged 30, wife of Mickey Walsh, the Eire international footballer, who plays for Porto in Portugal.

All four babies - three girls and a boy - who weighed between 2 lbs 12 oz and 3 lbs 6 oz, were doing well last night in the hospital's premature baby unit where they had been taken "as a precaution."

The operation was performed yesterday because it looked as though the pregnancy would not go much beyond 32 weeks. The babies had no medical or respiratory problems.

Mr Robert Walsh, aged 30, who played in his team's 1-0 win over Benfica on Sunday, flew in yesterday morning to be at the birth.

Mr Robert Winston, the consultant surgeon who had Mrs Walsh, and who produced Britain's first test-tube quads last year, said she was "delighted."

"She has been infertile for 10 years with blocked fallopian tubes, and an operation at the Hammersmith three years ago had not worked. She went into the test-tube programme in July and this was the first attempt," Mr Winston said.

Four embryos had resulted from the treatment and all four had been put back. Unusually they had all taken.

Last year Mr Winston was criticized for action "bordering on the unethical" by Mr Patrick Steptoe, one of the pioneers of the technique for replacing six embryos in Mrs Janice Smale who produced Britain's first test-tube quads.

Mr Winston said last night "no doubt our enemies will say that this is bad treatment again" but the odds against quads were high at less than 1 in 200.

Ponting admits passing papers to Labour MP

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The trial of Mr Clive Ponting, the Ministry of Defence official accused of breaching the Official Secrets Act, opened yesterday with an admission that he sent documents to an MP and a challenge to the Crown to show this was not against his duty as a civil servant.

He became involved in drafting various replies to letters and questions on the Belgrano as the Government was pressed by Mr Denis Davies, the Shadow Spokesman on Defence, and Mr Dallyell.

Mr Ponting, also prepared a definitive narrative of the sinking of the Belgrano for Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, which came to be known as the "Crown Jewels" among civil servants Mr Arlot said.

Mr Arlot said that one of the documents Mr Ponting sent to Mr Dallyell was marked confidential but this security grading had now been removed and the other paper was not classified.

The court was told that Mr Ponting had seen details of the Belgrano sinking and knew that the Government had nothing sinister to hide, nor in his drafts or minutes did he suggest the warship had been sunk for any other reason than it was a threat to the task force off the Falklands.

Mr Arlot told the jury that although Mr Ponting knew all the facts of the Belgrano incident they might consider why he leaked information to Mr Dallyell, who had been pressing the line that the Belgrano had been sunk to halt peace talks.

The information given to Mr Dallyell was misleading and could give a false impression against the true position known to Mr Ponting. Mr Ponting had developed differences with his colleagues on how information should be given to an MP pressing the point which Mr Dallyell had pressed.

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# Heathrow unable to cope with 1990s air traffic, report says

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Heathrow cannot cope with London's air traffic into the 1990s even if a fifth terminal is built and the limit of 275,000 flights a year is lifted, the Civil Aviation Authority reported yesterday.

The CAA's new paper provides fresh evidence in favour of expansion at Stansted, just as MPs are due to debate the issue tomorrow. It is scathing about the case for developing regional airports instead of Heathrow and Stansted.

The report says that the only way regional airports could have an effect would be by banning some domestic and European flights from Heathrow, reducing passenger choice, and by compelling people to travel by road or rail to the Midlands and North to catch their flights.

It does not follow that flights excluded from Heathrow would stay in Britain - much of it could go to Amsterdam, the CAA says. Some of the smaller UK airports may no longer be connected to Heathrow at all if such a policy were followed.

The paper provides strong support for last year's inquiry

report which called for expansion at both Heathrow and Gatwick to cope with future London traffic.

It concludes that between 1990 and 1995 the capacity of runway systems at Heathrow and Gatwick could not cope with demand even if adequate terminal capacity were made available because average aircraft passenger loads are expected to be too low.

More runway capacity needs to be brought on stream for the London area in about 1990 and Stansted's single runway offers an opportunity to meet this demand.

Removal of the proposed 275,000 limit on flights at Heathrow would not change the CAP 502: London Area Runway Capacity and Passenger Demand CAA PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 2AP.

The debate in the Commons tomorrow night on the Stansted report has been extended to run until midnight, instead of 10pm as originally scheduled. A substantial number of Tory MPs have signed a motion opposing the development.

# Bumper pay packets if wage offer is accepted

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A decision by miners' leaders to call off the national overtime ban and accept the National Coal Board's 5.2 per cent pay offer will give pitmen bumper pay packets.

The 5.2 per cent offer, made in the autumn of 1983, is still on the table, and the coal board has indicated that it is prepared to backdate payments for the period worked by each miner since the settlement date of November 1, 1983. A top-paid face worker who did not join the strike would get a lump sum of more than £350 before tax; the lowest-paid surface worker would get just over £250.

Delegates at a special National Union of Mineworkers conference imposed the overtime ban in protest at the

MINERS' PAY			
money due	Value of 5.2% offer	Non-strike offer	Strike offer
	£pw	£	Mar 12 £
Top face worker	6.80	353.50	129.20
Lowest paid surface worker	4.90	254.80	85.50

offer, which Mr Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman, made clear at the time was a "take it leave it" one.

The ban on weekend working has remained intact even in the Nottinghamshire coalfield, which has worked throughout the strike. The working miners argued that they were prepared to observe the ban because it had been constitutionally called, whereas the constitution had not been adhered to in calling the strike.

The ban also had little impact on the average take-home pay of miners. Those who suffered were staff, including winders, maintenance and development teams, who did a lot of weekend



Looking fit: The future of Argyle, a pit horse partially blinded by a brick thrown from a miners' picket line near Doncaster last year, will be decided this week. The eight-year-old gelding was allowed out for the first

time yesterday after an operation at the Animal Health Trust's unit at Newmarket to relieve the pain in his right eye. Argyle will resume limited duties with the South Yorkshire force or be retired. (Photograph: John Manning)

work paid at premium rates. In the early days of the ban winders claimed that their weekly pay had been reduced by up to £70 a week.

Production has been affected because essential maintenance work has had to be done on Mondays and Tuesdays. Before the strike the board was sending home several thousands of staff on those days.

Pit deputies and colliery managers accepted the 5.2 per cent, and so were paid for last year. The managers have also accepted an identical offer for this year; Nacods is holding a ballot.

Coal board negotiators are likely to insist that the overtime ban is withdrawn as part of any return-to-work agreement, but there could well be separate negotiations with NUM leaders on pay increases for last year and this year when the strike ends.

# Cortonwood miners aim to retain their pride

From Craig Seton, Bampton Brierlow

There was no talk of defeat yesterday in the picket line hut outside South Yorkshire's Cortonwood colliery, whose proposed closure started the miners' strike, but the defiant confidence of five months ago had evaporated.

On the eve of today's new talks the pickets wanted to talk about an honourable settlement and return to work that would leave their dignity and pride intact.

Mr Geoffrey Hill, aged 35, a face worker for 13 years said: "Oh yes, it has been worth it. When I go back to work, irrespective of what the settlement is, I will still walk down this pit lane with my head held high. That is the most important thing."

The pickets' hut - they call it The Alamo - was crowded with striking miners beside a roaring fire seeking shelter from the biting wind. They were discussing 11 months of deprivation, mass picketing and poisoning, the violence, the gathering return to work, the support of their wives and community that had kept them going and their naivety in supposing that the strike would be a victorious return of those of the 1970s.

They also spoke of mistakes. Mr Hill said: "The biggest single factor against us was the attitude of the Government. They were prepared for us. It was also our own silly fault for working so hard and making sure there was plenty of coal to keep going."

"I think now we should have had a national ballot. I think we would have won it, but whether the Nottinghamshire men would have come out I don't know. They are a different breed and we don't talk about them."

"Everything was against us - the Government, the police, the coal board, the media and we did not get much help either from the TUC or Labour Party. We are still confident about talks, not at all down-hearted, but we have to face up to the reality that we won't get everything we wanted. I still cannot see Scargill surrendering. Win or lose, we put up a good fight."

The men are less clear about what a settlement will give them. Cortonwood, in the village of Brampton Brierlow, near Wombwell, was sunk more than a century ago and is doomed within the next five years when its coal is exhausted.

When the coal board proposed its closure within a matter of months - it quality Cortonwood's high quality coking coal lost £20 on every tonne produced - its 850 miners called for supporting action and the consequences brought most of the British coalfield to a standstill. Now at best, its miners hope the coal board will reinstate its offer of a temporary reprieve for five pits - including Cortonwood. There the solid strike was finally broken in the autumn and the pickets said contemptuously that 24 "scabs" were now working.

Mr David Kenny, aged 28, a pit labourer said: "If the future of Cortonwood is referred to an independent review I will be satisfied."

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Leading article, letters, page 11

# Hospitals' laundry must go to private contract

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

South Cumbria Health Authority has been ordered to send its laundry out to a private contractor, in spite of an in-house tender being £30,000 a year cheaper.

The decision by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, has brought accusations of blatant interference in the tendering process from the Confederation of Health Service Employees and resentment from health authority officials.

Mr Richard Priestley, its general manager, said: "We thought we had followed the tendering process to the letter and we had accepted the lowest tender."

The lowest tender last year was an in-house bid from Roose Hospital, even after allowing for a £600,000 upgrade of existing outdated laundry facilities.

Mr Priestley said the annual saving on the contract, which Cohe values at about £275,000, was about £30,000, compared with the lowest private tender, from Blackpool Express.

The Northern Regional Health Authority supported the decision, but Mr Clarke ruled that there were better ways of spending the £600,000 capital to produce benefits which patients would see as more worthwhile than buying laundry equipment.

Mr Clarke said the expected savings were marginal.

Mr David Williams, general secretary of Cohe, said: "This supposed privatization for what it is, an attempt to sell off the NHS at all costs and to force down the pay and conditions of NHS workers in the process."

A private company Kneels from Exeter, which won a contract in Cornwall last year against the authority's wishes at ministers' insistence had incurred performance penalties, he said, with nurses taking their uniforms home get them cleaned properly.

# A-test doses six times above peak

By Pat Healy

Limits on radiation doses allowed for servicemen and scientists from Britain's first nuclear tests were set at six times the maximum permitted dose for radiation workers. That was confirmed yesterday when the Australian royal commission investigating the safety of the tests resumed public hearings in London.

Mr David Barnes, founder of the health physics branch of the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Aldermaston, Berkshire, told the commission that he had helped draw up the safety regulations for the tests, on the basis of standards set in 1950 by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP).

Those standards allowed people working with radioactivity to be exposed to a maximum of 0.5 Roentgens a week. For Britain's initial nuclear tests, the idea of an "integrated dose" was introduced, allowing servicemen collecting vital records a dose of 3R.

"We said these people are not receiving these doses over a whole lifetime. They were people who engaged on general radioactive work at their principal work. We said if we gave them a dose of 0.5R for a week, then a dose six times that over a period of six weeks wouldn't be unreasonable. They would work off the dose in a period of six weeks."

# Race count for Civil Service

By Our Political Correspondent

The Government is to introduce a phased programme of ethnic monitoring for the entire civil service, Lord Gowrie, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, announced last night.

But the race count, which is designed to measure the scale and spread of racial disadvantage, will not be completed until 1988 and the "rolling programme" will not cover Whitehall departments until the end of next year.

In the wake of the Scamman report, *The Brixton Disorders*, published in November 1981, Lord Whitelaw, then Home Secretary, accepted the recommendation that the Government should give a lead.

# Relaxation of lobby rules agreed

By Our Political Correspondent

Parliamentary lobby reporters who cover the politics of Westminster and Whitehall have agreed to a limited exercise in on-the-record briefing by ministers and opposition party leaders.

They have voted by 67 to 14 for a "permissive" change in lobby rules, which previously restricted collective lobby briefings to a system of non-attribution.

Although Mr Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's press secretary, has indicated that he wishes to retain the anonymity of non-attribution, it is expected that opposition party leaders and the occasional minister will take advantage of the relaxation.

# Canny pleaders hold strike key

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The men who meet face-to-face across the negotiating table today to pave the way for an end to the miners' strike have one thing in common: a canny, private style that should establish at least a personal rapport.

Mr Merrick Spanton, aged 59, the coal board director for personnel, has been much less in the public eye but holds the stronger hand in talks with Mr Peter Heathfield, aged 55, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers.

They have reached the top by very different routes. Mr Spanton, educated at Eastbourne College and the Royal School of Mines, Kensington, climbed the greasy managerial pole of the coal board through mining engineering and management.

Mr Heathfield laboured for a decade in the relative obscurity of north Derbyshire as NUM area secretary before fame, and the left, beckoned him to centre stage a year ago.

Both have spent their lives in the industry. Mr Spanton, round-faced and reserved, started in management in 1950 at the highly profitable Ledston Luck colliery near Castleford in the West Yorkshire field. He moved up in the area and

became production director - and was rewarded with the general management of the Kent coalfield, generally regarded within the NCB as the equivalent of being sent to run a power station in Siberia.

After his stint there he moved to North Nottinghamshire, Britain's most profitable coalfield with an enviably moderate workforce. He stayed 13 years, before joining the board in October 1980, during Sir Derek Ezra's chairmanship.

He has played an increasingly public role as his chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, has chosen to work behind the scenes, and is chairman of NCB Enterprises Ltd, the £10million company bringing jobs to mining communities that lose their pits.

Mr Spanton, regarded by colleagues as "very lucid when he chooses", is a private man dedicated to the industry he has made his life's work. His rival also has a reputation for a quiet but incisive manner in delicate bargaining.

On stage, however, Mr Heathfield can rough it. A face and development worker for 18 years at Williamsthorpe colliery, he was active for years at branch and area level before winning election to full-time office in 1966 as coalfield compensation agent.

Seven years later he was voted area secretary, and was at one time regarded on the left as the natural successor to Joe (now Lord) Gormley as national president. In the interest of unity he declined to stand.

His turn came when Mr Lawrence Daly was persuaded to retire at 59 so that Mr Heathfield could run for general secretary in January 1984, just days before his 55th birthday would have made him ineligible.

By polling day the union's overtime ban was in full swing, and the moderates almost beat him. Mr Heathfield, firmly identified with the left and with Scargill policies, won only on the second ballot with 51.6 per cent of the vote.

Since then, he has stuck consistently to the official policy of "no economic closures", although at preliminary talks last week he accepted minutes which record that the NUM has allowed collieries to close on grounds other than exhaustion or safety. That willingness to negotiate will be put to the test today.

# Speaker to rule if Times report is subjudice


The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, will give a ruling today on what is subjudice, after Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, sidestepped questions on an alleged Ministry of Defence cover-up.

In reply to a question from Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, Mr Heseltine said he had asked to be fully informed about an impending court action against British Shipbuilders, and the allegation in yesterday's *Times* Diary that moves to keep certain documents in the case secret were an attempt to avert a scandal at the Ministry of Defence.

He said he understood the report in *The Times*, which quoted Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton as suspecting a cover-up, to be "a very long way from the truth". He also indicated that the matter should be regarded as sub judice.

The Ministry of Defence, whose solicitors have said in writing that the national security implications were not sufficient for them to claim "public interest immunity", said yesterday that the nine documents which it wished to keep in camera contained "classified information relating to the operational performance of ships currently in service."

Diary, page 10



## Income Bonds and Deposit Bonds

### NOTICE OF INTEREST RATE CHANGES

From 13 March 1985 the rate of interest payable on Income Bonds and Deposit Bonds will be changed from 12% to 12 3/4 % p.a.

Issued by the Department for National Savings on behalf of HM Treasury.

# Woman sues over Dallas link

Mrs Hazel Pinder-White broke down in the High Court in London yesterday as she described how she was devastated by an MP's article that compared her with Sue Ellen of *Dallas*, the television soap opera.

She is suing Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet South, for libel, claiming that linking her with Sue Ellen means she is "an adulteress and an alcoholic."

Mrs Pinder-White, a widow and mother of three, of Harbour Street, Broadstairs, Kent, and her late husband, Charles, moved to the town in 1970.

They campaigned on local issues, particularly the sewage problem, and "became something of a thorn in the side of establishment," Mr Richard Rampton, Mrs Pinder-White's counsel, told the court. Mr Pinder-White had also sued for libel, but died in 1981.

Mr Aitken, who made the reference in the *Crusader* column he writes for the *East Kent Crick* in February 1981, denies libel.

Mrs Pinder-White, one of Mr Aitken's party campaigners said JR and Sue Ellen "were the most unholly couple I had the misfortune to see on television."

"He was unscrupulous, dishonest, lacking in anything decent, which was completely opposite to my husband, who has spent his entire business life without a blot on his reputation. He never let anyone down. He was a superb businessman."

"As for comparing me with Sue Ellen, who was nothing but a high-class prostitute who drank heavily and was a total

# American folk painting brings £598,245

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A primitive painting bought in a Washington antique shop for \$60 became the most expensive example of American folk art ever sold at auction when it was bid to \$682,000 (£598,245) at Christie's in New York at the weekend.

Christie's had suggested that it might make as much as \$600,000-\$900,000.

It is a portrait of a little girl in a red dress. She holds a strawberry in her hand and has a little dog crouched at her feet. The painting is confidently attributed to Ammi Phillips, 1788-1865, an itinerant artist from Connecticut.

Between the publication of the catalogue and the sale of the painting Christie's discovered that they had underestimated American collectors' enthusiasm for the artist. An almost identical little girl in a red dress by Ammi Phillips, she has a cat

as well as a dog but no strawberries - was recently acquired by the New York Museum of Folk Art at a reputed valuation of more than \$1 million.

The vendor's mother, Mrs Dorothy Jackson, aged 88, bought the painting in a Washington antique shop in the 1930s. Her daughter and son-in-law, Mr and Mrs Raymond Smith, took the painting to a Christie's open day at the Corcoran in Washington in 1980 for valuation. Having been alerted to its potential value, they took it home and enjoyed it for another four years.

Christie's sale of American furniture and decorative arts in New York, with only 8 per cent unsold, raised a total of £2,031,555. A Chippendale-style carved mahogany pedestal table made for the Eyre family in Philadelphia around 1760-1775 secured \$286,000 (estimate \$60,000-\$90,000) or £250,877. A Chippendale-style mahogany armchair made for the same family in the same period made \$132,000 (estimate \$0,000-\$80,000) or £115,789.

In Paris yesterday a new auction price record was set for the work of the art deco architect and designer, Pierre Chareau. A bureau and matching armchair in simple-Eubist style, made from hickory wood - an American wood close to the European walnut - sold for 505,000 francs (£46,300). The pieces had come in at the last moment to a Charbonneau sale for which there was no catalogue.

Sotheby's weekend sale of fine English furniture in New York proved less popular than the American furniture sale at Christie's with 21 per cent left unsold and a total of £1.4m.

# Journalists in dispute dismissed

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The 74 members of the National Union of Journalists involved in a five-week, new technology dispute at *The News*, Portsmouth, were dismissed yesterday.

A management deadline for sub-editors to operate visual display units passed and the journalists were "no longer considered to be employees of the group," the company spokesman said.

An emergency meeting of the union's executive in Manchester tomorrow is expected to make sympathy action official by NUJ members at the group's three other centres in Sunderland, Hartlepool and Croydon.

The dispute centres on management's plan to transfer three National Graphical Association members from the editorial floor and the precise role of the association in future negotiations.

Journalists' leaders have told the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service that they would be prepared to meet management but the company is insisting that the action at the other centres should be called off as a precondition.

A disciplinary committee has been set up by the National Union of Journalists to investigate the way in which the union's executive agreed to allow Mr Ken Ashton, general secretary, enhanced pension arrangements.

# Man dies in shoe shop stabbing

An assistant shoe shop manager died after being stabbed in the neck during a row with a customer over a pair of shoes at the Church shoe shop in New Bond Street, London, yesterday.

Mr Stephen Hurdley, aged 27, of Sherbourne Park, Wigston, Leicestershire, had worked at the shop since 1981.

A man was helping police with inquiries at Vine Street.

# Four committed for VAT trial

Committal hearings which have lasted for more than a year over a series of alleged value-added tax frauds involving hundreds of thousands of pounds, from 1980 to 1982, ended at Highbury Corner Magistrates' Court yesterday.

The trial of the eight people involved is expected to last at least 18 months at the Central Criminal Court. There have been three committal hearings. The last ended yesterday when four people were committed for trial.

# Harlech inquest adjourned

An inquest on Lord Harlech, chairman of Harlech Television who died after a road accident last Saturday was opened at Shrewsbury yesterday, and adjourned until March 6, The coroner, Colonel David Crawford-Clarke, said police inquiries into the circumstances of the death would take some time to complete.

# Arson inquiry

Police investigating a fire on Saturday at a bungalow in Llanymynech, North Powys, owned by Miss Hilda Murrell, an anti-nuclear campaigner killed at Shrewsbury last year, disclosed yesterday that the incident was being treated as arson.

# Action backed

The Transport and General Workers' Union is to back any call for industrial action in town halls after the rejection of a 4.75 per cent "final" offer last week in pay talks covering almost a million "dirty jobs" workers.

# Peer's divorce

Lord Radnor, aged 57, was divorced yesterday for the second time. Lady Radnor, aged 52, was granted a decree nisi in the London divorce court. Lord Radnor did not defend the petition.

# Suspect gives up

Mary McGlinchey, on the run since the arrest last year of her husband, the former IRA leader, Dominick McGlinchey, surrendered yesterday to police in the Irish Republic.

# Complaints on peace teaching

Parents and children who are worried about indoctrination of pupils through peace studies should send their evidence to the Government, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

Speaking to a lobby from Women and Families for Defence at the House of Commons, he said he would follow up any complaints, and he urged parents not to be scared of complaining about indoctrination.

Sir Keith emphasized that there were not enough inspectors to monitor every class and he said that most teachers did not indoctrinate.

Lady Olga Maitland, chairman of the group gave examples of alleged indoctrination including the following:

- A school held a peace assembly to discuss the futility of war instead of a Remembrance Day service.
- A comprehensive school invited striking miners to speak and there were no representatives of the coal board.
- A teacher organized a trip to an open-air disco in London which turned out to be a CND meeting.
- Lady Olga asked Sir Keith to issue firmer guidelines to teachers on the teaching of peace studies.

Women's to seri  
Port a  
The Times overseas selling prices  
Europe: £1.20, £1.25, £1.30, £1.35, £1.40, £1.45, £1.50, £1.55, £1.60, £1.65, £1.70, £1.75, £1.80, £1.85, £1.90, £1.95, £2.00, £2.05, £2.10, £2.15, £2.20, £2.25, £2.30, £2.35, £2.40, £2.45, £2.50, £2.55, £2.60, £2.65, £2.70, £2.75, £2.80, £2.85, £2.90, £2.95, £3.00, £3.05, £3.10, £3.15, £3.20, £3.25, £3.30, £3.35, £3.40, £3.45, £3.50, £3.55, £3.60, £3.65, £3.70, £3.75, £3.80, £3.85, £3.90, £3.95, £4.00, £4.05, £4.10, £4.15, £4.20, £4.25, £4.30, £4.35, £4.40, £4.45, £4.50, £4.55, £4.60, £4.65, £4.70, £4.75, £4.80, £4.85, £4.90, £4.95, £5.00, £5.05, £5.10, £5.15, £5.20, £5.25, £5.30, £5.35, £5.40, £5.45, £5.50, £5.55, £5.60, £5.65, £5.70, £5.75, £5.80, £5.85, £5.90, £5.95, £6.00, £6.05, £6.10, £6.15, £6.20, £6.25, £6.30, £6.35, £6.40, £6.45, £6.50, £6.55, £6.60, £6.65, £6.70, £6.75, £6.80, £6.85, £6.90, £6.95, £7.00, £7.05, £7.10, £7.15, £7.20, £7.25, £7.30, £7.35, £7.40, £7.45, £7.50, £7.55, £7.60, £7.65, £7.70, £7.75, £7.80, £7.85, £7.90, £7.95, £8.00, £8.05, £8.10, £8.15, £8.20, £8.25, £8.30, £8.35, £8.40, £8.45, £8.50, £8.55, £8.60, £8.65, £8.70, £8.75, £8.80, £8.85, £8.90, £8.95, £9.00, £9.05, £9.10, £9.15, £9.20, £9.25, £9.30, £9.35, £9.40, £9.45, £9.50, £9.55, £9.60, £9.65, £9.70, £9.75, £9.80, £9.85, £9.90, £9.95, £10.00, £10.05, £10.10, £10.15, £10.20, £10.25, £10.30, £10.35, £10.40, £10.45, £10.50, £10.55, £10.60, £10.65, £10.70, £10.75, £10.80, £10.85, £10.90, £10.95, £11.00, £11.05, £11.10, £11.15, £11.20, £11.25, £11.30, £11.35, £11.40, £11.45, £11.50, £11.55, £11.60, £11.65, £11.70, £11.75, £11.80, £11.85, £11.90, £11.95, £12.00, £12.05, £12.10, £12.15, £12.20, £12.25, £12.30, £12.35, £12.40, £12.45, £12.50, £12.55, £12.60, £12.65, £12.70, £12.75, £12.80, £12.85, £12.90, £12.95, £13.00, £13.05, £13.10, £13.15, £13.20, £13.25, £13.30, £13.35, £13.40, £13.45, £13.50, £13.55, £13.60, £13.65, £13.70, £13.75, £13.80, £13.85, £13.90, £13.95, £14.00, £14.05, £14.10, £14.15, £14.20, £14.25, £14.30, £14.35, £14.40, £14.45, £14.50, £14.55, £14.60, £14.65, £14.70, £14.75, £14.80, £14.85, £14.90, £14.95, £15.00, £15.05, £15.10, £15.15, £15.20, £15.25, £15.30, £15.35, £15.40, £15.45, £15.50, £15.55, £15.60, £15.65, £15.70, £15.75, £15.80, £15.85, £15.90, £15.95, £16.00, £16.05, £16.10, £16.15, £16.20, £16.25, £16.30, £16.35, £16.40, £16.45, £16.50, £16.55, £16.60, £16.65, £16.70, £16.75, £16.80, £16.85, £16.90, £16.95, £17.00, £17.05, £17.10, £17.15, £17.20, £17.25, £17.30, £17.35, £17.40, £17.45, £17.50, £17.55, £17.60, £17.65, £17.70, £17.75, £17.80, £17.85, £17.90, £17.95, £18.00, £18.05, £18.10, £18.15, £18.20, £18.25, £18.30, £18.35, £18.40, £18.45, £18.50, £18.55, £18.60, £18.65, £18.70, £18.75, £18.80, £18.85, £18.90, £18.95, £19.00, £19.05, £19.10, £19.15, £19.20, £19.25, £19.30, £19.35, £19.40, £19.45, £19.50, £19.55, £19.60, £19.65, £19.70, £19.75, £19.80, £19.85, £19.90, £19.95, £20.00, £20.05, £20.10, £20.15, £20.20, £20.25, £20.30, £20.35, £20.40, £20.45, £20.50, £20.55, £20.60, £20.65, £20.70, £20.75, £20.80, £20.85, £20.90, £20.95, £21.00, £21.05, £21.10, £21.15, £21.20, £21.25, £21.30, £21.35, £21.40, £21.45, £21.50, £21.55, £21.60, £21.65, £21.70, £21.75, £21.80, £21.85, £21.90, £21.95, £22.00, £22.05, £22.10, £22.15, £22.20, £22.25, £22.30, £22.35, £22.40, £22.45, £22.50, £22.55, £22.60, £22.65, £22.70, £22.75, £22.80, £22.85, £22.90, £22.95, £23.00, £23.05, £23.10, £23.15, £23.20, £23.25, £23.30, £23.35, £23.40, £23.45, £23.50, £23.55, £23.60, £23.65, £23.70, £23.75, £23.80, £23.85, £23.90, £23.95, £24.00, £24.05, £24.10, £24.15, £24.20, £24.25, £24.30, £24.35, £24.40, £24.45, £24.50, £24.55, £24.60, £24.65, £24.70, £24.75, £24.80, £24.85, £24.90, £24.95, £25.00, £25.05, £25.10, £25.15, £25.20, £25.25, £25.30, £25.35, £25.40, £25.45, £25.50, £25.55, £25.60, £25.65, £25.70, £25.75, £25.80, £25.85, £25.90, £25.95, £26.00, £26.05, £26.10, £26.15, £26.20, £26.25, £26.30, £26.35, £26.40, £26.45, £26.50, £26.55, £26.60, £26.65, £26.70, £26.75, £26.80, £26.85, £26.90, £26.95, £27.00, £27.05, £27.10, £27.15, £27.20, £27.25, £27.30, £27.35, £27.40, £27.45, £27.50, £27.55, £27.60, £27.65, £27.70, £27.75, £27.80, £27.85, £27.90, £27.95, £28.00, £28.05, £28.10, £28.15, £28.20, £28.25, £28.30, £28.35, £28.40, £28.45, £28.50, £28.55, £28.60, £28.65, £28.70, £28.75, £28.80, £28.85, £28.90, £28.95, £29.00, £29.05, £29.10, £29.15, £29.20, £29.25, £29.30, £29.35, £29.40, £29.45, £29.50, £29.55, £29.60, £29.65, £29.70, £29.75, £29.80, £29.85, £29.90, £29.95, £30.00, £30.05, £30.10, £30.15, £30.20, £30.25, £30.30, £30.35, £

# Farmer who 'tried to kill wife for insurance shot neighbour to cover trail'

A farmer heavily in debt tried to kill his wife to collect two £50,000 insurance policies on her life and murdered a neighbour to throw the police off his trail. Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

Even while in custody Graham Backhouse, aged 43, wrote to his wife asking for her help in confusing the police.

Mr James Black QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Backhouse from Widdon Hill Farm, Horton, near Chipping Sodbury, Avon, was a "deviant, dangerous and determined man, who had carefully planned both crimes and carried them out in cold blood."

The jury was told that Mrs Margaret Backhouse, aged 37, who has two children, suffered severe injuries to her legs and buttocks when a bomb exploded inside the family Volvo car after she turned on the ignition.

Before the explosion, last April, Mr Black said, Mr Backhouse had invented a hate campaign against his sheep. He had even impaled a sheep's head on a stake in a field with a note saying "You next".

He had reported receiving

From Tim Jones, Bristol

threatening letters and telephone calls but the latter stopped after a recording device was fitted to the telephone by the police, Mr Black said.

After the explosion, on April 9, Mr Backhouse was given 24-hour police protection.

Nine days later that was withdrawn at Mr Backhouse's request. The police installed a "panic button" at his home which activated an alarm at a police station.

On April 30 the alarm went off. Five minutes later an ambulance was called.

Mr Backhouse had shot dead his neighbour, Mr Colyn Bedale-Taylor, aged 63 with two blasts at close range from a shotgun and then slashed his face and chest with a Stanley knife, Mr Black said.

"He must have realized he was the only real candidate for the bomb. He had to try to find a scapegoat."

"He lured Colyn Bedale-Taylor to his house, shot him and then set the scene to make it look as if Colyn Bedale-Taylor had attacked him and forced him to shoot him to death."

Mr Black said Mr Backhouse

had told acquaintances that Mr Bedale-Taylor had accused him of having something to do with the death of one of his sons, Digby, who had died in a car crash about 18 months earlier.

Mr Black said that part of the pipe used to make the car bomb was found in undergrowth in Mr Bedale-Taylor's drive after he had been killed, another attempt to cast blame on him.

The pipe was packed with explosives and 4,300-shotgun cartridge pellets equivalent to 10 or 12 cartridges, activated by a detonator wired to the ignition.

While in custody, Mr Backhouse wrote to his wife for help in smuggling in writing materials. "The police are fabricating evidence against me and my case is looking black. However, with your help, I can improve the case considerably. I want to fabricate a letter to the Press. So please help me. I must get out of this hell hole."

One anonymous letter Mr Backhouse wrote to the *Evening Post* in Bristol, tried to give the impression that Mr Bedale-Taylor was responsible for the bombing.

Mr Backhouse, denied attempting to murder his wife; murdering Colyn Bedale-Taylor and attempting to cause grievous bodily harm to his wife. Mrs Backhouse was present in court, although she left before the letter was read out.

Mr Backhouse, the jury was told, was left the farm to run on his father's death in 1979. By 1983, he needed £100,000 to cover taxes, expenses and debts, which totalled £70,000.

Mrs Backhouse had had a large insurance policy for some years. In March 1984 another policy was taken out for £50,000 in the event of her death or serious injury.

The hearing was adjourned until today.



Young cavalier: Samuel Skey, aged two, from Sturminster Newton, Dorset, marching in London with his father in the annual King's Army commemoration of the execution of Charles I (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

## Spot fines likely for minor traffic offenders

By Patricia Clough  
Fairer punishments for motoring offences are to be announced by the Department of Transport later this week.

A committee set up jointly with the Home Office will also look into ways of relieving the burden of magistrates' courts which deal with more than two million motoring offences a year. One of the solutions likely to be considered is on-the-spot fines by police for lesser offences.

It will be the first overall review of the motoring laws which have been introduced piecemeal, and without much relation to each other, over the years. The aim will be to achieve a fairer balance between serious driving offences and those for lesser ones such as speeding, which in the department's view are sometimes punished more severely than necessary.

Reports that the committee will recommend much lower alcohol limits for drivers were dismissed yesterday as speculation. "Drinking and driving is a serious traffic offence and will be considered against the penalties," a department spokesman said.

Worried by public criticism of its "Stay Low" campaign against drinking and driving at Christmas, the department has speeded an inquiry into its effects. "It was a controversial campaign but we did not realize it would be as controversial as this," the spokesman said.

## Interferon used to treat Aids sufferer

By Nicholas Timmins  
Social Services Correspondent

Three men with Aids (Acquired Immune Deficient Syndrome) are being treated in the isolation unit of Ham Green Hospital, Bristol, one of whom is receiving genetically-engineered interferon in an attempt to combat the disease.

A Bristol man, aged 28, whose condition is described as "serious", is receiving the interferon, a substance which occurs naturally in the blood to combat virus infections, to treat Kaposi's sarcoma, a rare skin cancer associated with Aids.

Dr Stuart Glover, the physician in charge of the cases, said that the Bristol man had been receiving treatment for five months. A full course lasted a year and it was too soon to judge whether the treatment was working. There had been limited success in the United States with the drug.

The other two victims, aged 40 and 53, both described as "stable", are suffering from fungal meningitis, and atypical tuberculosis.

## Clare Francis

Nothing in our report (January 22) of Clare Francis's appearance on the TV South *Questions* programme was intended to imply that she has ever been addicted to narcotic drugs. Any embarrassment she suffered as a result of this report - taken from a TVS press release - is regretted.

Miss Francis told viewers that for a short time as a student, she took tablets on which she quickly became dependent. Later discovering they were amphetamines, she said she got off them by going to a health farm. The tablets were, she now tells us, prescribed for her by her doctor, and she took them for a matter of only a few weeks.



Mrs Backhouse yesterday and her husband Graham.



Mrs Backhouse yesterday and her husband Graham.

## £200 a week for sleeping

One hundred alert job-hunters applied for employment at a north London sofa bed factory yesterday. The saleroom had planned to advertise tomorrow for a man and a woman to demonstrate their sofa beds by dozing convincingly in a shop window for £200 a week each. Applicants ranged from "down-and-outs" to "resting" actors.

## Woodland fund appeal

By Our Agricultural Correspondent  
The Woodland Trust is seeking £217,000 to buy 254 acres of ancient woodland near Leicester. Martinshaw Wood, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book, contains an estimated one million trees and a number of rare plants and geological features. It is being sold by the Forestry Commission.

## Women's hard road to senior posts

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent  
Women managers in British industry and commerce have to be more highly qualified than their male counterparts, are more likely to be single or divorced, face greater stress and prejudice and have greater difficulty in reaching the highest levels of management. These are the broad findings of a new British Institute of Management survey published yesterday which covered the career developments of a cross section of 1,882 managers and, for the first time, attempted to discover the differences in attitudes between men and women. It found that the proportion of women managers with postgraduate diplomas or higher degrees was about twice the proportion of men, although men are slightly more likely to have other professional qualifications.

## Diet fears overstated poll shows

By John Young  
Agricultural Correspondent  
One person in four has cut down on sugar consumption because of concern about health, an opinion poll published yesterday suggests. Almost as many people are eating less salt and butter, and a rather smaller minority less meat, cheese and potatoes. About seven per cent are drinking less milk. The MORI poll, commissioned by the Meat and Livestock Executive, suggests that most people are much less concerned about diet than recent publicity indicates. Of nearly 2,000 people interviewed, a surprisingly small number appeared aware of health warnings associated with specific foods.

What do you eat less of because of health concern? (%)	What do you think it would be best to eat less of? (%)
Sugar	25
Salt	22
Butter	17
Red meat	14
Cheese	10
Potatoes	9
Chicken	7
Vegetables	7
Milk	4

Source: MORI

## Schools given chance to plug into micro pages

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent  
A national educational service using the Prestel viewdata service was launched by British Telecom yesterday. For £49 a quarter and telephone charges a school will have access to the microcomputing pages on Prestel, which offer programs, information and advice on micros; 10 hours of free time on the system each quarter, and free usage every evening after six, after midday on Saturday and all day on Sunday. Schools will also be able to send general electronic mail to each other, copy computer programs from the Prestel computer database, have access to all Prestel information pages, and a listing of all educational courses longer than six weeks at the Open University and Britain's colleges and universities.

## Port and sherry sales fall

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor  
Consumers are turning away from sherry, vermouth and many parts while sales of table wines have surged since the taxation burden has been reduced. This trend in drinking habits was underlined yesterday by the Wine and Spirit Association when it appealed to the Chancellor for fairer treatment in his March Budget for what the association has dubbed the "sideboard wines". Mr Arnold Tasker, chairman of the association, said: "Forcing retail prices up by heavier and heavier sideboard duties is steadily squeezing port, sherry and vermouth beyond the pockets of Mr and Mrs Britain." Inequitable taxation of these stronger wines was interfering with the balance of the drinks market, he claimed. Between 1979 and last year 6.3 per cent of sherry drinkers had opted out and so had 3.7 per cent of vermouth fanciers. The number of port drinkers was up but it was higher-priced better quality ports which had benefited. Sales of other ports had been hit and port sales overall were down. In the same period the table wine drinking trend was up 15.5 per cent while whisky was marginally up and vodka

spirit sales down 15 per cent, according to the association. Since 1976 port sales have been hit most. Since 1979 sales of the sideboard wines overall dropped by nearly a quarter, the association says. Average tax in the period was up 30 per cent when measured in real terms after allowing for the effects of inflation. Revenue to the Treasury from duties had fallen in real terms. In contrast, table wines, with an average tax rise of 20 per cent, contributed 58 per cent more revenue to the Treasury. In the last Budget the Chancellor reduced the tax on table wines to bring the ratio between wine and beer taxes closer in accordance with a judgement by the European Court of Justice. Mr Tasker said: "Logically a comparable adjustment should have been made also in the levels of sideboard wine duties. In fact sideboard duties were raised yet again and by much more than the inflation rate. Spirits duty, on the other hand, rose by only 2 per cent." The association also wants the Chancellor to ease the trade burden of collecting duties and tax for the Treasury. It is asking for the handover period for taxes to be extended from four weeks to at least twice that.

Update on IBM, January 1985. No. 1

# Just the jobs for Britain.

Technological change has been sharp and sudden. IBM's personnel policy has met this challenge with extensive re-training among our 17,000 employees, rigorous manpower planning and job restructuring. Commitment to this personnel policy has proved a major strength in managing our business.

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We had a strong recruiting drive in 1984 and took on 1,700 new employees. As a result, 1,300 new jobs were created.

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PARLIAMENT JANUARY 28 1985 Walker in a hurry to settle strike

COAL DISPUTE

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, told the Commons that he was in a hurry to see a sensible settlement of the coal dispute because it was continuing to cause tremendous hardship in mining communities...

COAL DISPUTE

Mr Walker: There have been seven rounds of talks and we know the eagle who has done the damage to every one of them. It is certainly not Mr MacGregor who has made an offer to the miners which has been the best since nationalisation...

High coal stocks

Coal stocks at the power stations (the said) have remained at a very high level. The CEBG have reiterated their assurance that with present coal stocks and supplies there will be no power cuts due to coal shortages during 1985...

DEFENCE

Although it would have been cheaper to place both orders for Type 23 frigates with one yard, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, announced that he had decided to place one with Cammell Laird, Birkenhead, and the other at Swan Hunter, on Tyne...

Shipbuilding jobs

Mr Stephenson Ross (isle of Wight, L): As it appears that Swan Hunter has not actually had to tender for the Type 23, could he tell us if the same situation would apply for the Vosper, which now faces heavy redundancies and what is the price for the Type 23?

Hamilton: Reservations on Scargill tactics

Mr Walker: I have never heard any criticism either from the Labour leadership or the TUC of Nacods decision which provides a better closure procedure than the NUM has ever enjoyed under any Government...

Proctor: No revenge or victimization

Mr Walker: During his period as Secretary of State 17,000 miners took voluntary redundancy on nearly 100,000 man. In 1978, the NUM was closed with 1.5 million tons of reserves and there was another pit with three to four million tons of reserves...

Punishment Bill not ideal solution

The Bill to allow parents to exempt their children from corporal punishment in school might not be the ideal course in response to the problem of misbehaviour in schools, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in the Commons...

Greater subsidence risk

As a result of a survey commissioned by the Government of old mineral workings in a number of areas were identified that had previously not been thought to have been at risk through subsidence...

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As a Lawyer which do you prefer?

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, Ch): One feature of this has been the cowardice of the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Neil Kinnock, who failed at the beginning to call for a ballot. This would probably have avoided the strike.

Law Report January 29 1985

Hampstead Way Investments Ltd v Lewis-Weare and Another. Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Keith of Kinkor, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman. [Speeches sold January 24]

House of Lords

Establishing statutory tenancy. A statutory tenant of a flat who sublet the flat to a house that he had purchased nearby but who continued to occupy the flat to sleep there five times a week was not occupying the flat as his residence so as to retain the protection of the Rent Act 1977 in respect of it.

House of Lords

Liability for sewage. The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the Strathclyde Regional Council against the decision of the Second Division of the Court of Session (Lord Wheatley, Lord Justice Clerk, Lord Robertson and Lord Dunpark) that the pursuers were liable for the cost of the sewerage system.

Bottle is no trade mark

The bottle used as a container for Coca-Cola, which was an unusual shape, could not be a trade mark within the meaning of the Trade Marks Act 1938 since the mark must be something distinct from the container.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Representation of the People Bill, Committee. Lords (3.30): Insolvency Bill, Committee. First day.

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Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Brittan defends Special Branch right to spy on strikers

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, last night defended the right of the Special Branch to spy on strikers and suspects not directly involved in criminal activity.

But he denied that trade unionists were picked out specially for surveillance and said there was a "clear distinction" between subversion and active opposition to government policies.

Responding to complaints from Mr John Prescott, Labour's chief employment spokesman, about recently issued Special Branch guidelines, Mr Brittan said picketing would be of no interest to special branches if it was conducted peacefully and within the law.

"But where picketing may pose a threat to public order it is entirely right that a chief officer should have access to any relevant information that his Special Branch can provide to help him determine an appropriate level of policing."

Mr Brittan, who is to give evidence on the Special Branch to the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs tomorrow, said the concept of subversion "is interpreted differently in relation to trade unionists than in relation to any other group in society."

But he insisted that the definition of subversion activities that threaten the safety or well-being of the state and which are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means - was not limited to criminal acts.

Mr Brittan, who will be questioned by MPs about the definition, said that in an open society it was all too easy to use

tactics which were not themselves unlawful or subversive.

"Those who are entrusted with safeguarding our democratic institutions from subversive attack must not be prevented from looking into the activities of those whose real aim is to harm our democracy but who, for tactical or other reasons, choose to keep, either in the long or the short term, within the letter of the law in what they do."

Mr Brittan denied a suggestion from Mr Prescott that the existing definition allowed Special Branch officers to make "political judgements" about subversives involved in industrial activity.

"Under the definition an activity is subversive only if it is carried on with the aim of undermining or overthrowing parliamentary democracy and only if it threatens the safety or well-being of the state itself."

"There is a clear distinction between subversion and opposition to the policies of the government of the day or peaceful campaigning to bring about changes in those policies or to influence public opinion generally."

'Spying' ridicule

Allegations of a secret surveillance operation to monitor objects to the Sizewell nuclear reactor in Suffolk were ridiculed yesterday by the man at the centre of the controversy.

Mr Peter Hamilton, a private detective and former military intelligence officer, was named in The Observer as the mastermind behind the spy network.

But he said that the operation, for a private client in the United Kingdom, was a non-political assignment



Snow polo: Possibly the world's first polo match on snow (above) took place on the frozen lake of St Moritz at the weekend, when a team from Germany played the Cartier St Moritz team for the Dr P R Berry cup.

was played there every summer, with teams from Argentina, Italy, England and the US competing.

After 1965 the field was used to establish a high-altitude training centre for the Swiss Track and Field Association, so polo disappeared from St Moritz.

Interest was re-established in 1978 when Reto Gandenzi formed a new

team, which has since taken part in many international tournaments.

The snow match was organized on the occasion of 100 years' Winter Sports Jubilee. Its start was delayed for 45 minutes by a blizzard. Three snow ploughs and a snowcat swept tons of snow away and special shoes were designed for the horses, which trained for the unusual conditions. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Austrian officers condemn minister

From Richard Bassett Vienna

Senior officers in the Austrian Army yesterday joined the controversy here over the reception given to former SS major Walter Reder by criticizing the Defence Minister, Herr Friedhelm Frischenschlager.

The minister's airport meeting with the Nazi who was returned to Austria last Thursday after serving 33 years for war crimes in Italy, provoked condemnation from the World Jewish Congress, meeting here this week for the first time, and a rebuke from Chancellor Fred Sinowatz. Yesterday's criticism from the officers is believed to seal Herr Frischenschlager's fate as Defence Minister.

The former Austrian Chief of Staff, General Emil Stannocho, responsible for developing the Army's role as a neutral force serving with the United Nations in Cyprus and the Middle East, denounced the minister's action as "a stain on the honour of the Austrian Army".

Herr Frischenschlager flew home from Cairo yesterday after cutting short an official visit to Egypt.

General Stannocho said he had been angered and horrified by the minister's action, which had strongly implied a link between the Austrian Army of today and the German SS of the Second World War.

Colonel Karl Semlitsch, a staff officer attached to the Lower Austrian infantry regiment, said it was "infamous" to refer to Reder as a former Austrian major.

Herr Frischenschlager's position has not been made any easier by the impromptu press conference he gave at the airport here before he left for Cairo on Saturday.

Herr Frischenschlager showed journalists an Austrian Foreign Office document with four conditions he claimed the Italians had laid down for Reder's return. It was allegedly stipulated that the war criminal be met by a representative of the Government and that no information on his release from Italy be given before an agreed time last Thursday.

The minister insisted that he would not have gone to greet Reder had he known that it would become public. Only an indiscretion by an Italian news agency had alerted the world.

The Austrian Foreign Minister, Dr Leopold Graf, who was responsible for seeing that Reder's return was supervised by the Ministry of Defence, defended his decision on the ground that only that ministry could guarantee security. One of Austria's youngest ministers, Herr Frischenschlager was seen to represent a new image in the Liberal Party which traditionally suffers from a reputation as the party of disillusioned former Austrian Nazis.

Soviet hint of thaw to Jews

Vienna (Reuter) - Mr Edgar Bronfman, president of the New York-based World Jewish Congress, will pay a visit to the Soviet Union in March. He had accepted an invitation from the Soviet authorities and would discuss the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union, it was announced here yesterday.

"I am the first president of the World Jewish Congress to be invited to the Soviet Union in this capacity," he told reporters. But I know that the Soviets also want to talk business with me and therefore I am also taking a large delegation there."

Mr Bronfman is in Vienna for a conference of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Austria for the first time.

In a speech yesterday he said that the congress was hoping to improve relations with the Soviet Union, where some 2.5 million Jews live.

Israelis hope to solve mystery of their lost submarine

From Christopher Walker Beersheba

Israel is optimistic that one result of the talks with Egypt here will be a solution to the mystery surrounding one of the country's worst maritime disasters - the loss 17 years ago of the submarine Dakar and all 69 members of its Jewish crew.

The British-built submarine disappeared without trace on its voyage to Haifa from Portsmouth, where it had been refitted and lengthened by 10ft to pack in extra men and secret equipment.

"We have reason to believe that the wreck may be lying on the seabed in Egyptian coastal waters and we intend formally to request permission to conduct a search there to find it."

Mr Ehad Gol of the Israeli Foreign Ministry told The Times yesterday. "We are confident that the Egyptians will agree to such a humanitarian gesture."

The Dakar was last heard of in a coded radio message sent on January 25, 1968, some days after it had left Gibraltar and was making the last dangerous leg of its voyage under water at a speed of seven knots.

A French and an American submarine also disappeared at roughly the same time.

A search extending over tens of thousands of square miles conducted by the rescue services of five countries and run from Cyprus found no trace

Kidnapped envoy seen on video

Mr William Buckley, the US diplomat, kidnapped in Beirut 10 months ago, was alive and well as recently as last week, a video film released yesterday showed.

On the film obtained by Visnews, the international television news agency, he said that he followed Americans Mr Jeremy Levin and Mr Benjamin Weir, also kidnapped last year, were alive and well, too.

The Islamic Jihad, (Holy War) group said it was holding the men hostage with two other US citizens.

of the Dakar until a year later, when an emergency float was washed up on the Mediterranean coast in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

The mystery was deepened by the unexplained fact that two radio messages purporting to be from the submarine were received in Israel at the time of the disappearance, but were dismissed by the intelligence services as misinformation sent to disrupt the hunt for the craft.

The most popular theory in Defence Ministry circles is that the Dakar was lost through a combination of human error and technical failure. But it has not been ruled out that the submarine was deliberately

sunk of spirited away by an enemy power.

Because of the "decoy" messages and the fact that some 15 Soviet submarines were believed to have been in the area at the time of the disappearance, there are those who have never completely lost hope that the vessel was seized and the crew taken prisoner. Official sources have discounted this theory.

"Our main concern is to try to find the remains of the dead crewman and bring them back to Israel," explained Mr Gol. "One of the central tenets of our armed services is that the state will make every effort to bring back any member lost abroad for burial in Israeli soil."

The disappearance of the Dakar has long haunted the public imagination in Israel and this month family members attended an emotional memorial service for the lost men.

A special rabbinical dispensation was made to allow the wives of the missing crewman to adopt the status of widows under Jewish religious law and remarriage. Preliminary feelers have been put to the Egyptians about the chances of the full-scale search along the undersea shelf where the Israelis believe the wreck may be lying 1,000ft deep.

Recovery would be costly, but officials believe it would be pursued by the National Unity Government even at a time of economic crisis.

Kremlin clumsiness fuels Chernenko rumours

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"Mark my words," the veteran Kremlin watcher said. "These rumours about Chernenko are going to become more outlandish the longer he stays out of sight."

One drawback of a closed and authoritarian society like the Soviet Union is that, in the absence of official information, rumours proliferate.

President Chernenko, aged 73, has not been seen for more than a month. Instead, a stream of messages has been issued in his name, a technique intended to reassure both the Soviet people and foreign observers that he is in command despite his illness.

In fact, the messages tend to have the opposite effect, arousing the suspicion that something is wrong and that the Kremlin is trying to disguise it. According to both diplomatic and Soviet sources, Mr Chernenko's condition is causing growing concern.

Suspensions are reinforced by the fact that similar messages were issued during the illnesses of President Brezhnev, President Andropov, and most recently, Marshal Ustinov. Far from learning from this experience, the Kremlin propaganda machine seems to be working on much the same lines in the case of Mr Chernenko.

Rajiv takes firm line at summit

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

The summit of six middle-ranking countries in Delhi yesterday issued a call to nuclear nations to abandon their arsenals.

The leaders of India, Sweden, Argentina, Greece, Tanzania and Mexico also called for a ban on the militarization of space.

The meeting was the first appearance of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, on the international stage, and observers were inclined to regard it as a success.

Mr Gandhi distanced himself from the attitudes of, for example, Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister of Sweden, who is firmly in favour of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and who said as much in his address.

India regards the treaty as an imperialist trick, however, and Mr Gandhi made it clear that he distrusts the fact that "existing compacts deny to non-nuclear nations the right to conduct experiments even for peaceful purposes."

India exploded a nuclear device in the Rajasthan desert 10 years ago. "But though India has had the capability, India has not made a bomb," Mr Gandhi said.

Osaka police alert as gang boss dies

From David Watts, Tokyo

The king of the Japanese underworld died last night while dozens of his henchmen waited on the street below his hospital room to give blood to save his life.

An uneasy quiet has fallen over western Japan with riot police waiting for the inevitable retribution for the killing of the 50-year-old leader of Japan's biggest underworld gang, Masahisa Takenaka.

Police escorted the dead leader's body from an Osaka hospital before dawn and a wall of riot shields protected the only gangster so far charged in the case as he was transferred to police headquarters in Osaka. Mr Takenaka's body was taken to the home of the gang's late godfather. A hundred black-clad gangsters bowed their heads as his body arrived at the Kobe house.

Mr Takenaka was shot with three bullets in the abdomen and chest as he walked out of the apartment where his lover lived, according to the local press. The gunmen were waiting for him and his henchmen. They drove off in a black car after spraying the area with gunfire.

Mr Takenaka's murder removes the remaining guarantee of the fragile status quo in the underworld so important for the gangsters in maintaining their place in Japanese society.

Three killed as gunmen take over in Sidon

From Robert Fisk Beirut

As Israeli Army convoys continued yesterday to stream south down the coast road from Sidon in advance of the Israeli withdrawal from the city, the growing anarchy in southern Lebanon continued, with gun battles in the large Palestinian camp at Ein Helwe and three reported killings, including that of a seven-year-old schoolgirl.

The overnight fighting in Ein Helwe - between Guerrillas and Palestinians who had been working for the Israelis as informers - was followed yesterday morning by a daylight machine gun attack on a Mercedes car in the Sidon suburb of Abra.

The driver, a Lebanese who had allegedly collaborated with the Israelis, was killed instantly on the main road out of the city as dozens of bullets hit his vehicle.

Lebanese journalists in Sidon reported that a civilian was killed by members of Israel's proxy "South Lebanon Army" militia in the centre of the city, after the militiamen had been attacked with a rocket-propelled grenade.

The most disturbing incident involved seven-year-old Hawra Fadrag, who was travelling in a Volvo car when it reportedly came under fire from Israeli troops at a checkpoint.

Western correspondents - whom the Israelis are again trying to exclude from southern Lebanon - were unable to visit the scene of the shooting, outside Tyre.

If there was any hope for Sidon yesterday, it came in Beirut, where the Education Minister, Mr Selim al-Hoss, withdrew his resignation and returned to the Cabinet.

Just now this "mission" must be to save Sidon from further bloodshed as well as to shore up Lebanon's still deteriorating economy. Far along the Israeli front line at the Awali and Bissri rivers yesterday there were further signs of Israel's imminent departure.

A convoy of heavy trucks could be seen taking earth-moving equipment and prefabricated buildings from an Israeli position above the Bissri River bridge, while several armoured vehicles were moved away from the Awali River line north of Sidon.

Mr Bronfman is in Vienna for a conference of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Austria for the first time.

In a speech yesterday he said that the congress was hoping to improve relations with the Soviet Union, where some 2.5 million Jews live.

Standard Chartered Bank announces that on and after 28th January 1985 its Base Rate for lending is being increased from 12% to 14% p.a. The interest rate payable on deposit accounts subject to seven days notice of withdrawal will be increased from 9% to 11 1/2 % p.a. The interest rate payable on High Interest deposit accounts subject to twenty one days notice of withdrawal will be increased from 10% to 12 1/2 % p.a. Standard Chartered

Teenagers' killers get life

The leader of a gang which savagely murdered two innocent teenagers in the Peak District was jailed for life yesterday, with a recommendation that he serves at least 25 years.

Mr Justice Jupp sentenced Peter Murray, aged 36, to three life sentences for the murders of Mitchell Elgar, aged 17, a student, and Martin Pollitt, aged 19, and for conspiring to murder Mr John Redfern, aged 21.

The other members of the gang, Michael Bailey, aged 20, John Bannister, aged 21, and Michael Howe, aged 20, were each given three life sentences.

The jury had been told that the gang picked its victims off the streets and offered them jobs with a fictitious garage business. The teenagers were lured to an isolated spot at Copsalough, near Buxton, Derbyshire, where they were brutally beaten on the orders of Murray and Bailey.

Murray, unemployed, of Stockport Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, Greater Manchester, and Bailey, unemployed, of Wirrell Crescent, Cheadle Heath, both changed their pleas to guilty to all three charges during the 10-day trial.

Howe, a part-time salesman, also of Stockport Road, and Bannister, labourer, of no fixed address, had denied the charges. The jury took 80 minutes to return guilty verdicts on all three charges.

Drink case judge is banned

A judge who pleaded guilty to driving with excess alcohol in his blood after a day sitting in court was banned from driving for 18 months and fined £200 by magistrates yesterday.

John Bolland, aged 64, a judge at Chichester Crown Court, pleaded guilty through his solicitor at Arundel Magistrates' Court, West Sussex.

The court was told he was involved in an accident on the A27 road at Pating, near Worthing, driving back to his home in Firtle Road, Lancing, last September. Mr David Adams, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said that Judge Bolland's Daimler was the only vehicle involved in the accident. He was arrested after failing to provide a breath specimen.

A blood sample analysis later showed he had 205mg of alcohol to 100ml of blood in his system. The legal limit is 80mg.

Mr Ian Lay, for the judge, said: "My client much regrets the whole affair. He had finished his normal public work at the court and then finished his paper work before enjoying some sherry."

"The accident had shaken him and he drank from a flask kept in the glove compartment in the car."

Pending yesterday's court case Judge Bolland had been transferred to Croydon Crown Court and told not to try motoring offences.

Free daily battles for slice of £25m adverts

By Craig Seton

The Daily News, nearly four months after it was launched in Birmingham as the country's first free daily newspaper, is still locked in a conflict of claims and counter claims over readership levels with The Birmingham Post and Mail, the city's established morning and evening newspapers.

At the heart of the dispute is the need for the free daily to secure a larger share of the estimated £35 million the advertisers spend in the city each year and its campaign to convince advertising agencies of its disputed claim to be the best read paper in Birmingham.

As a result of samples taken by Research Surveys of Great Britain, the free daily's chief executive, Mr Chris Bullivant, said that on a 300,000 circulation it had 492,000 readers and reached 74 per cent of the adult population in its circulation area.

The survey, he said, showed the "Evening Mail" has an average readership of 53 per cent and the morning paper, which is inclined towards business and commerce, and which reduced from broadsheet to tabloid only a few days before the free newspaper was launched had only 6 per cent.

Mr Bullivant said: "The survey proved we print 300,000, distribute that many and that they are read. We are still not being designed to make a profit within the first year. The advertising in Birmingham is £25 million and I need under 22

The Birmingham Post and Mail said last night it was seeking further significant reductions in staff after the transfer of weekly newspaper production to Birmingham from Walsall last July.

The future of three weekly newspapers, at Cannonock, Rugeley and Chelmsley Wood, was being studied, but none of the company's other newspaper titles was at risk, a statement said.

per cent of that market to make a profit. Everything is working and looking good.

Mr Bullivant added: "I do not believe that in 10 year's time there will be any paid for regional daily publications left."

Mr Ian Colledge, managing director of the Birmingham Post and Mail, said the News survey showing readership levels for his newspapers was invalid because it concentrated merely on the areas where the free newspaper was delivered and did not include the much wider distribution areas of its rivals.

The survey suggested the News had only 1.6 readers per copy compared with 2.6 readers per copy of the Post and Mail on their circulation of 202,500 within the city boundary.

He added: "We distribute in a much wider area in Birmingham and the West Midlands region around it. Our circulation is 317,000, which gives us a much greater readership of 826,000."

Police escorted the dead leader's body from an Osaka hospital before dawn and a wall of riot shields protected the only gangster so far charged in the case as he was transferred to police headquarters in Osaka. Mr Takenaka's body was taken to the home of the gang's late godfather. A hundred black-clad gangsters bowed their heads as his body arrived at the Kobe house.

Mr Takenaka was shot with three bullets in the abdomen

It is hardly the best advertisement for the dream ticket in its waking hours that Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley should now be favouring different candidates to be the new general secretary of the Labour Party. That is some indication of the twist into which Labour has got itself over the appointment of a successor to Mr Jim Mortimer, which is to be made by the national executive committee tomorrow.

The choice is critical for the party's future. Only a strong and administratively capable general secretary will stand a chance of sorting out Labour's internal mess. Yet nobody has been found who is generally acceptable to the leading figures in the party, and the balance of forces which is shaping up for the election will make it harder for whoever wins to do the job effectively.

Most of those who were earlier considered potential front-runners are not available. So the effective choice lies between Mr Larry Whitty, the research officer of the General and Municipal, who is supported by Mr Kinnock, and Mrs Helen Liddell, secretary of the party in Scotland, whom Mr Hattersley would prefer.

That is not a simple left-right contest. The G and M, which is campaigning hard for Mr Whitty, is not a left-wing union. The Transport and General Workers' Union, which is reputed to be backing Mrs Liddell, is decidedly more to the left. The scene is complicated by union obligations and rivalries.

Second ballot decisive

But the broad picture is that most of Mr Whitty's support on the first ballot will come from the soft and softish left - if Mr Michael Meecher and Mr David Blunkett can nowadays be put in that category - and from those associated with his union. Mrs Liddell's support will come mostly from the right, and the hard left will support either Mr Joyce Gould or one of the other outsiders.

Neither Mr Whitty nor Mrs Liddell is expected to have an overall majority on the first ballot. On the second ballot some of the hard left may abstain, but enough of them seem likely at this stage to vote for Mr Whitty to give him the edge.

If that happens Mr Whitty will be seen as having been propelled to power by the left. That would be damaging for him and perhaps rather harsh.

The right have definite misgivings about him. He is reputed to have supported Mr Tony Benn against Mr Denis Healey for the deputy leadership in 1981, although it would be more accurate to say that his position was anti-Healey than pro-Benn. He declined to work for Mr Healey's re-election even though the Healey campaign was largely being organized from the union.

Reforms need right's support

Mr Whitty is a man whose political instincts are to the left, but he also strikes me as a political realist. If he is chosen, he will know that he will need to build bridges to the right. The danger is not that he would wish to exclude the right, or do the bidding of the left, or be oblivious to the party's administrative needs. But I do wonder if he would be sufficiently tough with the left for fear of dividing the party.

If Mrs Liddell is elected, she is likely to be seen as the person from the right. But that also would be a little too simple. She has done an excellent job in Scotland, where she is seen as being slightly to the left.

The danger in her case lies not with her capacities but with her party. Is it really willing to allow even a capable woman in her early 30s to carry out the rigorous operation that is required to put Labour's house in order? Labour is still in its bones a chauvinist party.

To perform an extraordinarily difficult task effectively a left-wing general secretary would need to mobilize the support of the right to push through the necessary reforms. A right winger would need to secure sufficiently broad consent to prevent the left blocking those reforms.

Whoever is elected tomorrow will require more support to do the job than to get it. Mr Kinnock and Mr Hattersley will have to get together for a start.

# Pretoria offers talks to ANC leaders if it abandons violence

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town

The South African Government would be prepared to talk to the African National Congress (ANC), the banned black nationalist organization, if it abandoned violence, a spokesman for the Office of the President said in Cape Town yesterday.

"The position of the President (Mr F. W. Botha) is quite clear. If the ANC stops their campaign of violence, we will sit down and talk to them. If they do not stop their violence we will not talk to them", Mr Jack Viviers, the presidential press liaison officer, told *The Times*.

The statement was made in response to a request for reaction to remarks made by the ANC leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, in an interview with the Conservative peer, Lord Bethell, in Pollsmoor Prison near Cape Town, where he is serving the 21st year of a life sentence.

Lord Bethell's account of the meeting appeared in last week's *Mail on Sunday* newspaper in London, and quoted Mr Mandela as saying that the ANC "would declare a truce" if the Government "legalize us if we treat us like a political party, and negotiate with us".

Until the Government did this, however, "we will have to live with the armed struggle", Mr Mandela told Lord Bethell, adding that it was up to Pretoria to make the first move because

"the armed struggle was forced on us by the Government".

Mr Mandela was evidently referring to the fact that ANC did not resort to sabotage and guerrilla war until late in 1961, more than a year after it and other black organizations had been banned by the Government.

Mr Viviers said Mr Botha would not comment on the details of Mr Mandela's remarks. If talks were to be opened, the president would require "not just a statement of intent, but hard and fast evidence over a considerable period of time that violence had in fact been abandoned."

"You have to realize that we are dealing with an organization that is supported and financed by the Soviet Union, and we would have to be very sure that the ANC was not just engaged in another ploy to gain recognition", he said.

Lord Bethell's meeting with Mr Mandela has aroused great interest in South Africa, though none of his remarks could be quoted in the South African press under the local censorship laws.

No one can remember when a foreign politician was last allowed to meet Mr Mandela, still less to discuss politics with him.

Only a fortnight earlier, Senator Edward Kennedy had been refused permission to see the ANC.

There is speculation that the Government wanted to sound out Mr Mandela's views without talking to him directly, and when Lord Bethell applied for an interview some months ago it decided that his Conservative credentials and specialist interest in human rights made him a suitable intermediary.

One of the most interesting statements made by Mr Mandela is his unequivocal expression of regret for the car bombing in Pretoria on May 23, 1983, which killed nearly 20 people and injured more than 200 others, and his insistence that the ANC's intended targets remained buildings and property.

"Something must have gone wrong with the timing. It was a tragic accident", he is quoted as saying by Lord Bethell.

Mr Oliver Tambo, acting president of the ANC in exile, who once ran a Johannesburg legal practice with Mr Mandela, has never disowned the Pretoria bombing in such explicit terms.

The Bethell interview comes after several months of speculation that Pretoria may be preparing the ground for talks with the ANC. At the end of last year *Beeld*, an Afrikaans newspaper which supports the government, sent a senior reporter to Lusaka, Zambia, to interview Mr Tambo and other ANC figures. It recommended as a result that dialogue should be opened with the ANC.



Last hope: Sick refugees wait for treatment at Harbo camp.

# Cholera warning was unheeded

From Paul Vallety, Addis Ababa

Hundreds of deaths from a disease like cholera at Harbo refugee camp in Ethiopia were predicted only one week before the actual outbreak occurred.

Dr David Coady, professor of epidemiology at the school of Public Health in Los Angeles, visited the refugee camp in Wollo earlier this month. In a report dated January 5 he forecast: "If an adequate constant water supply is not maintained major epidemics of water-borne diarrhoeal diseases can be expected with hundreds of fatalities." The warning was relayed to the Ethiopian Government, but nothing was done.

Eight days later a killer diarrhoeal epidemic broke out which infected 529 of the camp's 5,000 inhabitants and made the daily death rate leap from 14 to 52. The disease also killed inhabitants of the neighbouring town and people who lived on the main road only 200 yards away.

Western doctors maintain the disease is cholera, but the Ethiopian Government still says it is only "acute diarrhoea and vomiting".

Dr Coady's report also revealed that the number of latrines was inadequate at the time and that most patients in the camp were debilitated and had diarrhoea as "a major problem".

The report was commissioned by Concern, the Irish relief agency, which runs the camp together with the Ethiopian Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. Dr Coady's findings were passed to the commission and other interested bodies. A second Concern report in the same month spelt out the problem in greater detail.

To help solve these problems in the hospital compound, Concern installed latrines closer to the hospital tents, but the problem was too great to be overcome - by this measure alone.

"With this number of people living in very crowded conditions, where shelter was basic and clean water very limited, infection quickly spread", the report continued. "The lack of clean water resulted in the people drinking water from the river, causing further health problems."

The building of a hospital and minor improvements to the water supply were not enough, it concluded. "A health and sanitation education programme is also necessary to encourage the camp dwellers to utilize the inputs to the best advantage."

# Seven nations ready to join airlift

Five more Western countries have volunteered to join the United Nations relief operation after the success of the experimental drop of food by the British and West German air forces in the remote Ethiopian Highlands (Paul Vallety writes).

Mr Kurt Jansson, the assistant Secretary-General of the UN in charge of international relief co-ordination in Addis

Ababa, said yesterday that the governments of Belgium, Sweden, Italy, France and Canada had made offers to take part.

Cargo aircraft dropped 14 tons of wheat from 30ft or less at the weekend to test accuracy and damage, and found that loose packing resulted in only 2 per cent of bags breaking open. The cost of the airdrop was £27.95 a ton, compared with

£21.75 by road. But the road figure does not include the cost of secondary distribution from warehouses in the provinces.

Despite the success of the trials, however, airdropping will not yet become a regular part of the relief effort. The Ethiopian Government will now consider the implications of the scheme before agreeing to regular drops.

# More tears as Torun trial draws to a close

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Popieluszko murder trial entered its final phase yesterday with tearful pleas from the accused secret policemen and a propaganda barrage against pro-Solidarity priests from two government ministers.

The Torun court, trying four Polish secret agents for their part in the killing of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, decided that the state prosecutor could begin his summing up today and declared that the hearing of evidence and witnesses had been completed.

Four motions from the defence lawyers and the advocates representing the Popieluszko family were rejected by the judge, thus ensuring that the climax to this trial, unique in the Soviet bloc, will soon be reached.

Submitting themselves to a last round of questioning, the three kidnapers - Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, Lieutenant Leszek Pokala and Waldemar Chmielewski - wept freely, the normally self-controlled Piotrowski swallowing and gulping for air as the tears rolled down his face. The fourth defendant, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, charged with complicity in the murder, sat impassively in the dock.

Piotrowski denied that he led the operation.

Courtroom observers detect a new feeling of solidarity between the three kidnapers, as if the possibility of a death sentence has united them.

The prospect of a death plea goes some way to explain the timing of two statements by ministers sharply critical of priests who espouse politics from the pulpit.

Mr Adam Lopatka, head of the Religious Affairs Ministry, said: "Clerics who abuse their priesthood or churches for political aims do harm, not only to the State, but also to the Church."

The government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, writing under a pseudonym, suggested in an article that non-believers should be protected from the militancy of priests.

Warsaw appears to be showing Moscow and any other doubters in the Soviet bloc that tough action against the four secret police did not mean that the Government was abandoning its Marxist principles or would suddenly go soft on priests.

# Rights team inspects Ankara's record

Ankara - A delegation from the European Commission on Human Rights arrived to investigate complaints by five European countries of torture and other human rights violations in Turkey.

Headed by Professor Giuseppe Sperduti of Italy and including Sir James Fawcett of Britain, the deputation was invited to Turkey by the Ankara government (Our Correspondent writes).

In Elazig, eastern Turkey, three members of the extreme left-wing Dev Yol (Revolutionary Way) organization, were sentenced to death and 28 others jailed.

# Godard film on Mary cleared

Paris (Reuters) - A Paris court ruled that Jean-Luc Godard's film *Hail Mary*, featuring a basketball-playing teenager as the Virgin Mary, did not warrant censorship or banning. It dismissed a case brought by two key Roman Catholic associations.

"Nothing in this film makes it pornographic or particularly obscene," the magistrate said. The associations' lawyer argued that scenes showing Mary naked with her taxi-driver boyfriend, Joseph, were deeply offensive.

# One-egg pandas

Peking (Reuters) - A Chinese scientist has found out why the rare giant panda is so bad at reproducing itself. The female, like amphibians and reptiles, produces hundreds of eggs at a time but only the largest egg becomes mature and is discharged for fertilization.

# Reindeer hit

Lules, Sweden (Reuters) - About 30,000 reindeer in Lapland are starving because their forage froze in a midwinter cold spell. Its protective snow cover had been washed away by rain.

# Year of the rat

Taipei (Reuters) - Taipei's rat population doubled in the Year of the Rat, and they now outnumber the 2.3 million human residents four to one. Mainland China showed less respect, killing 525 million in 1984. Incentives there included a lottery in Shanghai with a dead rat as the price of a ticket.

# Dutch join UK in urging Belgium to deploy cruise

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The Netherlands and Britain both told Belgium in no uncertain terms yesterday that it must honour its promise to Nato and allow deployment of cruise missiles from next March.

The firm advice from Britain had been expected, but Belgium may well have been surprised by the strength of the argument from the Dutch, who have themselves postponed a decision on deployment until next November.

Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, saw Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Hans van den Broek in Brussels in his quest to see if any Nato members are prepared to allow Belgium to delay deployment. He has already been told in Washington and Rome that any

delay would weaken the alliance's position.

Sir Geoffrey told him that Nato solidarity had been a major reason for the Soviet Union's return to the negotiating table. These talks, however, would be a long process.

He said he had emphasized the view that the allies must stick to the timetable for deployment. Britain looked to Belgium "to give full weight to the importance of the decision for the alliance and the transatlantic relationship".

Mr van den Broek said he and Mr Tindemans discussed the negative effect that deviating from the agreed schedule might have on negotiations with the Russians.

# Pope warns against false dogma

Mérida, Venezuela (Reuters) - The Pope yesterday told Catholics in this university city that they must accept the teaching of the Church with docility and reject ideologies which oppose it.

He flew to Mérida, a city in the Andes which is the centre of the country's most religious region, from the oil city of Maracaibo on the third day of his visit to Venezuela.

Indian children wearing traditional bright ponchos and broad-brimmed straw hats welcomed him at the small airport under the 16,523 ft Bolivar Peak.

In bright sunshine and near-freezing temperatures, tens of thousands of people cheered the Pontiff as he drove to say Mass from an altar on a pyramid-shaped platform.

"Being faithful to the Church means not allowing oneself to be carried away by doctrines or ideologies contrary to Catholic dogma, as certain groups of materialistic inspirations or of dubious religious content have desired," he told the crowd.

This was the Pope's second apparent reference to the influence of political ideologies on the controversial "liberation theology" which has attempted to formulate a Catholic response to social injustice, particularly in Latin America.

Today the Pope flies to Ciudad Guayana in a region where Spanish conquerors and English corsairs once looked for the fabled land of El Dorado, symbol of man's lust for gold.

● WASHINGTON: The Pope's decision to hold a special session of the Synod of Bishops in November took bishops and Church officials in the United States by surprise. However, the move was widely welcomed (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mgr James Malone, president of the American Catholic Bishops' Conference, said the assembly would give bishops an opportunity to work in a special way with the Pope "to apply the insights and wisdom of the Vatican to present-day problems concerning the Church".

# Iran insists it repelled latest Iraqi offensive

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran said yesterday it had crushed a new Iraqi offensive on the southern front in the Gulf war, inflicting heavy losses in men and equipment.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said Iranian forces had repelled an overnight attack on Majnoon Island and were in full control of the battlefield.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said earlier that Iraq had launched a dawn offensive, capturing Iranian positions and killing many of their soldiers. He said the Iraqis had been unable to repel the attack.

# Reagan will be in Europe for VE Day

Washington - President Reagan will pay state visits to West Germany and Spain after attending the seven-nation summit in Bonn on May 2 to 4, the White House said yesterday (Mohsin Ali writes).

The President's state visit to West Germany will be from May 5 to 8. He will go to Spain from May 8 to May 10.

American officials said that a Reagan state visit to Portugal is expected to be announced soon.

The President will be in West Europe on May 8, which will mark the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe against Nazi Germany.

The President's itineraries for the West German and Spanish visits were still being discussed, the spokesman said.

# DeLors asked to help solve Greek dilemma

Brussels: M Jacques Delors, the President of the European Commission, was asked by EEC Foreign Ministers yesterday in Brussels to find a new way to satisfy Greek demands for more financial help (Our Correspondent writes).

Greece is threatening to block Spanish and Portuguese entry to the community until it has been offered enough money to compensate it for the effects of this enlargement. West Germany is refusing to pay extra money until Spain and Portugal do join the community.



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# Hanoi's economic plight forces choice between Cambodia and the West

Hanoi (NYT) - "Vietnam has lived without you for thousand years, and we can live without you for a thousand more," a Foreign Ministry official here told a group of visiting Americans recently.

But diplomats and development experts, from Western and Eastern bloc nations, interviewed before yesterday's arrival of the United Nations Secretary-General, Senior Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, tell a different story. Vietnam, they say, is desperately in need of Western assistance and wants to improve its relations with the United States.

The main stumbling block is Hanoi's occupation of Cambodia, which has led to the curtailment of most Western aid and stood in the way of the establishment of diplomatic ties with Washington. Senior Pérez de Cuéllar's visit, his first here as Secretary-General, is therefore being watched closely by diplomats for signs of initiatives on Cambodia from Hanoi.

In assessing the impasse, the Vietnamese leadership appears to be torn between staying in Cambodia for reasons of national security and finding a way to leave in the hope of attracting more development aid.

Vietnam, diplomats and aid officials say, is a country where malnutrition and intestinal infections, which have disappeared from many parts of Asia, are still the biggest health problems. The standards of many goods and services are falling rather than rising, and one of the most sought after skills is the repair and rehabilitation of obsolete machinery.

## UN chief arrives in Vietnam

Senior Pérez de Cuéllar flew to Hanoi yesterday after Vietnam's Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, accused the world body of having "blood on its hands" for recognizing the anti-Hanoi guerrilla coalition as the rightful ruler of Cambodia (AFP reports).

Bangkok on my way here," an academic said, "I see the gap between Thailand and Vietnam getting wider."

According to its own official figures, Vietnam failed to meet most of its economic targets last year. Nearly a decade after the fall of Saigon, Vietnam (with a per-capita income lower than India's) ranks with its allies, Laos and Cambodia, as the poorest nation in South East Asia.

The evidence can be seen in the streets of Hanoi, a beautiful city almost unchanged architecturally since it was abandoned by the French 30 years ago. Shabbily dressed people crowd into rundown homes and ride ancient trams brought here decades ago from Strasbourg. Drinking water is no longer chlorinated, the electricity supply is erratic. A worker's basic wage hovers around \$1 a month at the black market exchange rate, about \$25 at the inflated official rate. A bicycle, most people's only form of transport, can cost as much as \$100.

Vietnam's critics say Hanoi may have already decided not to give ground on Cambodia, particularly as its troops have

successfully emptied the guerrilla camps of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, the larger of two non-communist opposition groups loosely allied with the communist Khmer Rouge against the Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh.

Hanoi may be hoping instead to persuade the UN, which has called for Vietnamese withdrawal and does not recognize the Phnom Penh regime, to accept the status quo. If this is true, the reason are manifold and complex, more often conjecture than known, because Hanoi remains one of the toughest, most distrustful and secretive of capitals in which to work.

This atmosphere, according to foreign residents, grows out of an overriding obsession with national security, born of 40 years of war and possibly encouraged by the presence of large numbers of Soviet advisers. "It is impossible to exaggerate the paranoia of Vietnam", a diplomat said.

These fears of vulnerability, coupled with an historical tendency to see greater Indo-China as its sphere of influence, make Hanoi reluctant to abandon the Cambodian buffer. Some diplomats sympathetic to Vietnam say Hanoi may have rightly calculated that loss of control over Cambodia may be too high a price to pay for what might turn out to be a disappointing amount of Western aid.

Internal disagreements may also be playing a part in the reluctance to compromise on Cambodia.



Riot police and striking minibus drivers clash in Manila yesterday, the first day of an indefinite strike.

## Bomb injures 13 during Manila protest

From Keith Dalton Manila

A home-made bomb thrown by a motor cyclist exploded among striking transport workers and riot police in Manila yesterday, injuring at least 13 people. One of the nine policemen hurt is in a critical condition.

The two groups were scuffling for control of the road when the bomb went off, followed by several smaller explosions. Elsewhere in the Philippine capital 200 riot troopers charged strikers and student supporters who linked arms and tried to stop traffic. More than 80 were arrested.

Two buses were burnt before daybreak on the first day of an indefinite strike called by minibus drivers demanding that President Marcos rescind a 12 per cent price increase imposed in October.

The strike call by the Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations, which claims a national membership of 90,000 minibus drivers and operators, was ignored by allied

minibus and only about 20 per cent of Manila minibuses were off the road, police said.

Strike organizers claimed 80 per cent of members stopped work, and in the southern city of Davao city transport was virtually halted. More than 2,000 police and riot troopers were out.

## Opening the gates will be least of Rock's problems

GIBRALTAR

In the second of two articles on Spain and Gibraltar, Richard Wigg reports on the practicalities to be faced when frontier restrictions are lifted.

A few hours after the big gates at what the Spaniards technically call a "police and customs control point" have swung open at midnight next Monday, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Señor Fernando Moran, his Spanish counterpart and former Consul-General in London, will meet later the same day in Geneva. They are supposed to begin what the Brussels agreement calls "a negotiating process" on the future of Gibraltar.

One of the first real tests of this still shadowy process will be whether the two airports get down to charging sides with settling practical problems, like re-establishing Gibraltar's air links with Spain, or spend more time on political issues, like Spain's sovereignty claims.

Last November's Brussels agreement spoke of claims in the plural, since Spain is interested not only in the Rock, ceded under the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, but also in the isthmus which Gibraltar's airport now straddles. In Gibraltar's halcyon days as a British naval base and key to the Mediterranean, it was the Victorian Raccourse.

The Gibraltar Government has made it clear the Rock is not viable without the airport, but Spain had yet to fulfil its promise under the Brussels agreement of early actions necessary to allow safe and effective air communications. Britain and Spain are proceeding by stages: first the land

frontier opening and then, if things go on as planned, resuming the air and water links across the Bay of Algeciras.

But resuming air services broken off with the 1969 blockade is a delicate matter: Will Spain insist it is resuming an internal service when it lifts the ban which bisects the Bay of Algeciras air space and which has made access difficult in adverse weather? Will Spain allow non-Spanish firms to extend Gibraltar's present runway, essential if bigger planes are to bring in more tourists? Is there a link-up role for a future Andalusian airline, as the region's autonomous government imagines?

The direct link across the bay with Algeciras also awaits the green light. It could be vital if the widely anticipated congestion with visitors' cars clogs the road between La Linea and Gibraltar this summer.

Gibraltar's taxmen lobby, the perfect expression in miniature of all the established interests on the Rock, has

stopped all but organized coach trips and private cars going through. But they argue, who else knows Gibraltar's tortuous, narrow, often one-way streets, plus the local history in English?

There is talk of "two-destination" package holidays, with British or foreign tourists dividing their stay between Gibraltar and one of the Costa del Sol resorts. The Costa Travel Agents' Association foresees big gains from the frontier opening.

Restaurateurs in the Campo think they offer much better and cheaper fare, but local people fear that foreign tourists' purchasing power will drive up their own living costs.

British residents on the Costa will now be able to shop in Gibraltar's Lipton's or Marks and Spencer and use its offshore banking facilities. But they should also be aware of Gibraltarians' concern that they may swamp local health services.

Spaniards are talking of the economic integration of Gibraltar with its natural hinterland. They would do better to speak of co-operation and, as one Gibraltar banker put it, remember the solid benefits the mainland Chinese have drawn from the commercial and financial skills of Hong Kong on their doorstep.

Sensitivity to the views and feeling of others is not a common characteristic of Spaniards. A leading businessman of Indian origin in Gibraltar put it well: "Above all, for any new arrangement to work there must be respect on both sides, and there's not much respect here, you know, for the Spaniards." And it is still easy to meet influential Spaniards with a contempt for the Gibraltarians.

## Verification snag in Stockholm talks

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

The stumbling block to progress at the 35-nation Stockholm peace conference, which enters its second year today, is the verification of unscheduled military exercises.

Nato insists that if it has reliable information that the Warsaw Pact is holding such exercises, it should have the right to send observers, with the Pact guaranteed similar rights in the West.

The American delegation, led by Mr James Goodby, main-

tains that such verification is a key issue as he continues to press for the acceptance of the six-point package submitted to the opening session of the conference.

This calls for freer exchange of military information, annual listing of forthcoming military exercises, notification of all exercises, invitation of observers to exercises, verification of exercises and the establishment of better lines of communication at times of height-

ened world tension. "Dropping one of these measures would weaken all the others," a US spokesman said yesterday. On the issue of verification of unscheduled military exercises, he said: "What we are saying is we have measures for inviting observers routinely to these exercises but sometimes cases will come up where we think an exercise is being carried on which has not been notified but which should be

## Queensland Premier seizes NZ chocolate

From Tony Dnoubin Melbourne

Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, the Queensland Premier, has entered the dispute between Australia and New Zealand over the Anzus treaty and introduced an element of farce by impounding a shipment of New Zealand chocolate in Brisbane.

Sir Joh, a right-winger and avowed enemy of socialism, used an obscure state health regulation to freeze the importation of the chocolate last week in retaliation for New Zealand's stand against the entry to its ports of nuclear armed or powered vessels. The regulation stipulates that foodstuffs must bear the importers name and address.

Sir Joh was obviously stung by a remark made last year by Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister. According to Sir Joh, who recalled the remark at the weekend when he announced the chocolate ban, Mr Lange had said: "That stupid Queensland Premier can't do anything to hurt us. He's only got a state to look after."

"I don't expect our action will make the New Zealand Government change its mind," Sir Joh said, "but at least it will highlight their naive anti-nuclear policies."

He said New Zealand was the weak link in the Anzus treaty, and Mr Lange's attitude towards the United States was regrettable. "If necessary, we might look around and see if there are any other New Zealand products given favourable treatment in the past that are really breaking state health regulations."

Meanwhile the left wing of the Australian Labour Party has been angered by a letter Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, wrote to Mr Lange on the nuclear ships issue, which said that the treaty could not have different obligations and meanings for different members.

The federal parliamentary party's left faction has announced that the issue would be a main topic when it meets in Canberra on Thursday. The meeting could embarrass Mr Hawke on the eve of his trip to Washington to meet President Reagan.

## Missionary couple murdered

From Our Correspondent Manila

An Australian missionary and his American wife were murdered on Sunday in their home in Northern Philippines by intruders who left the couple's two children unharmed in their beds, police said yesterday.

Mr Michael Shelling, aged 35, and his wife, Janice, aged 32, were found sprawled together in a pool of blood with gaping neck and head wounds caused, according to police investigators, by Bolos, a native sword.

The Shellings, members of The Assembly of God Church, had worked three years in the Philippines.

# Williams & Glyn's

## Interest Rate Changes

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 28th January 1985 its Base Rate for advances is increased from 12% to 14% per annum. Interest on deposits at 7 days' notice is increased from 9% to 11 1/2% per annum.

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# Barclays Bank Interest Rates.

**BASE RATE**  
Barclays Bank PLC announces that with effect from the close of business on 28th January 1985, their Base Rate was increased from 12% to 14%. This new rate also applies to Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited.

BARCLAYS  
Reg. Office: 54 Lombard St., EC3P 3AH. Reg. No's 1026167 and 920890.

## China declares war on profiteering officials

Peking (Reuter) - The Chinese authorities yesterday repeated a warning to Communist Party officials, who have been manipulating central policies for their own profit, that economic crime will be ruthlessly stamped out.

Western diplomats said China's more liberal economic policies have brought great success but have also started a wave of corruption, and predicted a tough clampdown.

"The party's Central Disciplinary Commission convened a meeting in Peking recently which agreed to wipe out ruthlessly the three evil trends among party and government officials," an editorial published by all the main official newspapers said.

The conference recognized that these new, unhealthy

tendencies severely undermine the smooth progress of economic reform," the editorial added.

The Chinese authorities, under the leadership of Mr Deng Xiaoping, the elder statesman, have shown no doubts about cracking down on crime when they believe it necessary.

The editorial detailed the three types of corruption. "Some officials, in the face of central dictates forbidding them, were running businesses and buying up goods in short supply, then selling them at a profit. Others were raising prices at random and harming consumers' interest. More were making up all sorts of excuses to distribute bonuses and give away goods," it said.



José Sison: Seven years in cell.

## Philippines: José Sison

By Caroline Moorehead

Last summer José Sison was taken from a completely enclosed and shrouded prison cell, in which he had spent almost seven years in solitary confinement, and transferred to another cell to join two other prisoners.

It is five metres long and three and a half metres wide and gives on to a slightly smaller yard, surrounded by 14ft-high concrete walls lined with barbed wire. The only view is a small patch of sky.

A prominent journalist and poet, involved in the labour movement since he early 1960s and a founder member of a number of organizations calling

for democracy and national independence, Mr Sison was arrested with his wife November, 1977, at Barrio Paglalagan del Norte in San Fernando, La Union.

Fettered and manacled for much of the next 18 months, sometimes deprived of food, water and sleep, he was denied access to a lawyer. His wife, for a while confined with him, gave birth to a boy in December, 1981, and was released.

Alleged to be chairman of the Communist Party, Mr Sison is still awaiting trial on charges that include conspiracy to commit rebellion and subversion.



## Base Rate

With effect from the close of business on 28th January and until further notice TSB Base Rate will be 14% p.a.

Trustee Savings Banks Central Board, PO Box 33, 25 Milk Street, London EC2V 8LU.



NatWest announces that with effect from Monday, 28th January, 1985, its Base Rate is increased from 12.00% to 14.00% per annum.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP



## Coutts & Co

Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is increased from 12.00% to 14.00% per annum with effect from the 28th January, 1985 until further notice.

The Deposit Rates on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal are as follows:-

11.00% per annum for funds not liable to CRT.  
8.25% per annum for funds liable to CRT (equivalent to 11.79% per annum to a standard rate taxpayer).

Payments of interest made before 6th April, 1985 will normally be at the gross rate.

## Lloyds Bank Interest Rates

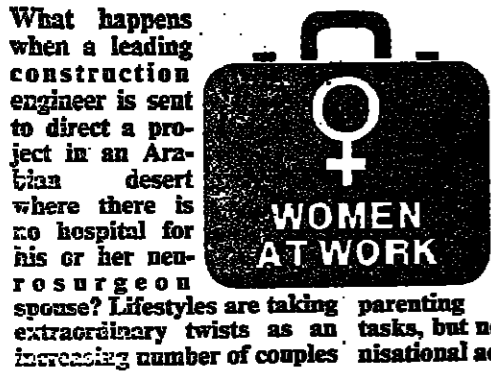
Lloyds Bank Plc has increased its Base Rate from 12% to 14% p.a. with effect from Monday 28th January, 1985.

Other rates of interest are increased as follows:  
7-day-notice Deposit Accounts and Savings Bank Accounts - from 9% to 11.5% p.a.

The change in Base Rate and Deposit Account interest will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of Lloyds Bank International Limited The National Bank of New Zealand Limited.

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# Double the trouble, twice the fun



accept that a wife's career is as important as her husband's - and adjust their lives accordingly. They consider their work to be of equal value so they also share parenting and domestic tasks, but not without "organisational acrobatics".

By Patricia Clough

What happens when a leading construction engineer is sent to direct a project in an Arabian desert where there is no hospital for his or her neurosurgeon spouse? Lifestyles are taking extraordinary twists as an increasing number of couples

high-powered management training expert in Oxford has an important engagement and cannot take her daughter to see a specialist. So another high-powered management expert who lives in Paris arranges to be in Britain that day and takes her instead. It is just a normal domestic arrangement in the married life of Joanna and Jerome Foster. The deputy head of the Soviet desk and the official running the Polish desk at the Foreign Office invite foreign diplomats and friends to a smart dinner party. They cook it together, host it together, then bid farewell to their guests and wash up together - for John and Judith Macgregor are husband and wife. Lifestyles are taking extraordinary twists and turns as more and more couples accept that the woman's career is as important as the man's and adjust their lives accordingly. Not for them the one-career, two-worker system where one job (usually his) is seen as essential and the other (usually hers) as good for the finances and morale but in effect secondary, often to be fitted in with housework and bringing up the children. Dual-career couples consider their work of equal value, to be equally supported and encouraged, and share parenting and domestic tasks equally. "We regard ourselves as two single professional people who cooperate", says Judith Macgregor.



Dual career couples: Nicholas and Jane Winterton (top left), Joan and David Link with son Matthew (bottom left) and Jerome and Joanna Foster (right)

**You cannot expect life to fit into a set pattern. Society changes so fast you must be flexible**

But what happens when babies arrive, or when a leading construction engineer is sent to direct a project in an Arabian desert where there is no hospital for his or her neurosurgeon spouse? The short answer, is each couple finds its own solution: like fingerprints, no two situations are exactly alike. Those who fail soon cease to be dual-career - or to be a couple. The experience of widely-differing dual-career couples shows, in fact, that their underlying philosophy, the sacrifices and the gains are all very much the same. "The key word is flexibility", says Jerome Foster. Last year he was offered a dream job in

Paris. Joanna had become involved in very rewarding work in London. The children, Hugo, 15, and Kate, 12, were heading for their O-levels and had already had three major upheavals in their education because of family transfers. So Jerome went to Paris, Joanna stayed with the children at home in Oxford, commuting daily to London: the family go through organisational acrobatics to stay as close together as possible. This includes three weekends a month for Jerome in Oxford, one for Joanna in Paris, and long telephone calls every night. David Link has turned flexibility into an art. A computer scientist, he seized his wife's diplomatic career as a chance for a varied and exciting life away from the stifling hierarchy of the large organization he first joined. He took a postgraduate teaching course, one of his pupils gave him ideas for educational computer programming and now, his wife Joan temporarily based in London, he has a thriving software firm, Highsoft, in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire. When Joan is posted abroad again he may accompany her and found a subsidiary or stay at home or start something else. "You can't expect life to fit into a set pattern. Society is changing so fast you have to be flexible", he says. Nicholas Winterton's very traditional life as a Conservative MP was turned on its head 18 months ago when his wife Ann, who had been exclusively a housewife and mother, was elected to Westminster too. "I was the main breadwinner and when I came home I expected certain things. I took a lot for granted." Now he pitches in, making the beds, washing up, fetching coal, lighting fires, cleaning shoes and is obviously proud of it. "It has worked extremely well. I would never have believed it", he says. Dual career couples generally accept that there are times when one partner's career has priority and the other will take a back seat, knowing that later on it will be the other way round. At present Judith Macgregor is on maternity leave with her first baby, knowing that John would be quite happy to take a spell of unpaid leave to be with her if she were posted somewhere and there was no immediate slot for him in the same embassy. The biggest crunch comes when one partner is expected to move to a different town or even country where the other cannot easily follow.

In the United States, and to a lesser extent in Britain, big corporations are realizing they must adjust to these new problems or risk losing highly-qualified staff. Ideas being tried in some companies include joint transfers, when couples both work for the same firm, or efforts by the company to find jobs in the new area for the spouse it does not employ. They are introducing transition allowances, retainers and being more flexible in transfer arrangements. But in the Foreign Office, however, the issue is both painful and, since diplomats have to move regularly from one country to another, almost insoluble. A number of talented diplomats have dropped out of the service because of their partners' careers, and even more marriages are suffering because of the wives' (occasionally the husbands') sense of frustration.

So the Foreign Office tries hard at least to accommodate its 69 in-service couples. Where a diplomat is married to, say, a clerical grade employee, this is fairly easy. But if they are of equal rank, like the Macgregors who are both first secretaries, the number of embassies large enough to accommodate them is small and shrinking. And the more diplomats who marry each other, the harder it will be. Successful couples make a firm rule that every decision about their lives should be thoroughly talked over, the pros and cons carefully weighed and the solutions carefully and clearly worked out. "One does not say 'I want to do this, how can I?' It is 'How can we fit it in?'" says Judith Macgregor. Couples who have children find they must be ruthless in shutting out their careers from time earmarked for their private lives. "You really have to plan

in order to totally unwind, to have couple time and family time and time for the extended family", says Joanna Foster. Weekends are sacred, for the Fosters even if an important conference looms on the Monday morning. It often means each has to work late into the night on weekdays. Even the Wintertons MPs, for whom weekends are often the busiest time, have set aside two weekends next year to be with each other and watch rugby matches. "Whatever the couples lifestyle, it has its price. All

complain of the strain of the danger of exhaustion. "You can never do anything. You can never devote yourself to one thing for long enough", says Joan Link. Some couples say their social life suffers, though others make a point of seeing friends. There are often moments of discouragement. "I sometimes feel like superwoman and sometimes think I must be crazy to be doing this", she says. During a less active period while the Links were abroad David saw his men friends forging ahead in their careers at home and "often wondered what the hell he was doing there. I told him that is what a lot of wives feel like, but it did not help". Separation can mean lopsided burdens. Joanna Foster finds herself holding the fort at home and worries that the strain of her job and commuting is preventing her keeping up

her standard of what Jerome calls "200 per cent parenting". Nobody likes household chores, but the men take them as their stride. Two-salary couples, in any case, can often afford help in the house. However, all enthusiastically insist that it is worth it. A traditional marriage, says David Link, would not be nearly so stimulating. "I thrive on a varied and exciting life. I am doing exactly what I wanted to do and it is great". "We both need outside stimulus. Both feel if we stayed at home we would go barmy or dry up", says his wife. The Link family are all happy that David had plenty of time to look after their son Matthew, eight, when he was younger. Children easily adjust and help out with the arrangements, says Joanna Foster who lectures on the problems of divided loyalties for the Industrial Society. At the same time they

come to see that jobs can be fascinating and worthwhile. "It is much more satisfying now", says Ann Winterton. She and Nicholas are fortunate enough to have neighbouring constituencies and they see more of each other now, while commuting to Westminster and in the House, than they did before. "Before I tried to understand the strains on Nicholas, but until you have done it yourself you can never really understand the pressures the other is under". Their dual careers have strengthened their relationship, both agree. "I wouldn't want to go back", Nicholas says.

**I was the main breadwinner and at home I took a lot for granted**

**TOMORROW**  
Small businesses: Smart move for a woman's skills



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formal wear for men

## Pressing view from the gutter

moreover... Miles Kington

Who are they, these strange old men you sometimes see on Tube trains late at night? You know the ones I mean. They have bottles sticking out of their pockets or tucked tightly under their arms. They sometimes go sprawling headlong, but the bottles never, never get broken. They hold on to them with some sixth sense, like a mother holding her child or a politician getting hold of the wrong end of the stick. Sometimes you see them huddled up against warm air vents behind big buildings or in railway stations. Their sessions are collected round them in carrier bags and occasionally, in the deep unshaven shadows of their face, you can see a little puff of red as they draw on an old cigarette stub. But who are they? They never talk to you. Some of them though, shout in your general direction. They either erupt suddenly with a volley of curses and doom, or they mutter loudly non-stop, swearing revenge on some unknown enemy. Most terrifying of all, a few of them smile to themselves and nod, then murmur under their breath, as if they have prior knowledge of a disaster which the rest of us are walking into. You know the ones I mean, don't you? But who are they? Well, most of them actually, are ex-editors of national newspapers. If not all of them. Come closer and listen to what they are actually saying. "God the Government, that's what I say. That's what I say, and the Government. What do they know about anything? I'll tell you what they know about anything. Nothing. That's what they know. They're making a mess, I tell you. A mess. And why? Because they don't know anything. That's why." The style has become more staccato, but it's still the same. It's the style of the hard-hitting editorial. "The Government has

landed itself in a mess entirely of its own making. We warned them, but they would not listen. Now they have made their bed and must lie on it." So the Government. What do they know? From time to time these old tramps, these once-proud Fleet Street champions, pause to take a deep draught from their bottles. In the old days they had a drinks cabinet in their office and could take a draught whenever they wanted to. Now they have to carry it round with them, but it comes to the same thing. And who can blame them? Day after day they told the Government what to do, in clear, clear tones. In words that a child, or a newspaper proprietor, could understand, they patiently explained what Britain should do next. Come off it. Get your finger out. Don't live in cloud cuckoo land. Remember who your real friends are. But did the Government ever listen? Of course it didn't. No wonder these prophets feel without honour. No wonder they are drinking the cider. No wonder they go round and round the Circle Line, telling passengers what to do and still being ignored. Once they had three million readers ignoring them. Now they only have a couple of dozen people ignoring them. That's a circulation drop by any standard. But is there anything that you or I could do about them? Well, yes, there is, actually. You can go up to one of these fiercely lonely old men - some of them, unbelievably, still in their 30s - and say: "Saw your paper this morning - it looked pretty good. Better front page than the others. And cracking good editorial; that should make the Government tremble!" They won't let on that they

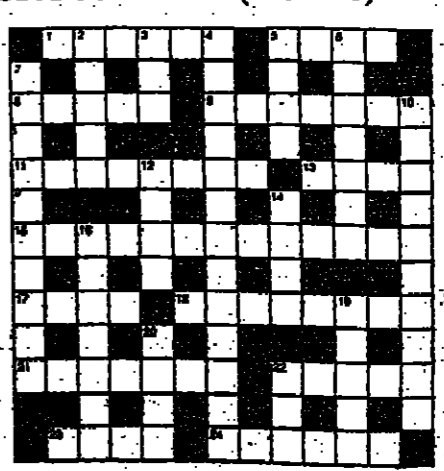
have heard you, but inside they will be trembling with pleasure. Editors try never to show pleasure - someone might ask a favour in return. Or a rise. But if you can't bear to get near to the smell of cider and sweat, there's still a way you can help these old champions of the truth. Send as much money as you can afford to SOE (Save Old Editors). Even a couple of hundred would do. The SOE's address is the same, by coincidence, as the Moreover office. Make your cheque payable to us, if you like. We'll know what to do with it. But don't for heaven's sake send it to the Government. What do they know? Nothing, that's what they know. Believe us.

Historical footnote. The facsimile Times commemorating Churchill's death reminds me that even in his last days the old boy was capable of smart one-upmanship. I remember passing the Notting Hill Classic cinema in 1965 and noticing a big sign on it saying PAUL NEWMAN WEEK. Underneath a newspaper placard read WINSTON CHURCHILL WEAKEE.

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Moreover column, we shall be reprinting some of the great jokes from past columns. Here's one from July 17, 1868. Q. Who were the two worst Prime Ministers in British history? A. No idea; who were they? Q. Pitt the Elder and Pitt the Younger. A. Were they that bad? Q. Oh yes - they were the Pitts!

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 556)

- ACROSS: 1 Haphazard (6) 2 Immense (4) 3 Ingratious (5) 4 Permanent (7) 5 Erratic (8) 11 Beard race game (4) 15 Pleasure (13) 17 Midday (4) 18 Bonanza (8) 21 Consign (7) 22 Refuge (5) 23 Current events (4) 24 Roof/beam (6)
- DOWN: 2 Wrong (5) 3 Aberdeen river (3) 4 Dispense badly (13) 5 Undershirt (4) 6 Incentives (7) 7 Liberal treatment (10) 10 Without reason (10) 12 Heroic poem (4) 14 Hairless (4)
- SOLUTION TO NO 555: ACROSS: 1 Below 4 Lassagne 8 Logia 9 Diocese 10 Escallop 11 Slog 12 Translucent 17 Loft 18 Give away 21 Manteau 22 Ultra 23 Endorse 24 Elec
- DOWN: 1 Better 2 Logic 3 Working 4 Lady of leisure 5 Soup 6 Grenada 7 Emerge 12 Schedule 14 Refined 15 Flambo 16 Tynard 19 Witte 20 Veer



*Handwritten signature or mark*









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## FAIR TRADING IN THE CITY

Mr Norman Tebbit has chosen a challenging subject for his return to the centre of the parliamentary stage. The White Paper on the control of financial services, which he plans to introduce this afternoon, may not be an intense party issue. It will, however, set the framework in which the revolution in the financial services business will unfold in the next few years. The decisions taken may well determine the success or failure of that revolution in combining greater competition and flexibility, earning the confidence of the fast-growing army of private investors and ensuring the development of London's position as an international financial centre.

There is every reason for Mr Tebbit to be confident that he has the principles right. They stem from the review of investor protection by Professor Lawrence Gower, set up back in July 1981 and published a year ago. Professor Gower reached his main conclusions for improving protection before the Stock Exchange reached its historic deal with the Government to end fixed broking commissions and, consequently, to break down the traditional separation of functions between firms in the City, which had itself provided much of the theoretical protection against investors being taken for a ride by the professionals. This added powerfully to the need for a new Investor Protection Bill. But further consideration has not required changes in the basic principles laid down by Professor Gower. This suggests they are robust and well-founded. They have since won wide support from an initially sceptical City.

The three pillars of Professor Gower's approach are supervised voluntary self-regulation, licensing of businesses to give authority to rules and codes of conduct and providing both the

customer and the supervisors with more information. Such a system relies on the powerful incentives for the collective practitioners of any trade to maintain the confidence of the public while avoiding a hefty new bureaucracy that could stifle initiative at the taxpayer's expense.

The City already provides examples of the effectiveness of voluntary investor protection, for instance in the Stock Exchange and the City's takeover panel and of the perils of complacency that so damaged the reputation of Lloyd's before it was reformed. Each kind of business should have its own self-regulating agency, from the venerable Stock Exchange to newcomers such as the Association of Future Brokers and Dealers, but they need to be buttressed by an organization that can make sure that the club rules protect investors from being made fools of but do not protect members from competition. This upper tier regulator needs to bring traders and customers together to supervise the performance of the trade associations, provide them with statutory backing and act as an ombudsman for public complaints.

But will the details of Mr Tebbit's White Paper fulfil these fine principles? Ministerial thinking in public certainly gives rise to some doubts. Splitting the statute based supervisory authority into two - for City markets and for life assurance and unit trusts - makes administrative sense, for the two organisations will take over from the Bank of England and the Department of Trade. But that split was a weakness of the old system that should not be perpetuated into the new world of financial conglomerates that operate from money markets to the doorstep.

Licensing practitioners of financial services by requiring

memberships of the organisations that regulate their trade gives the latter teeth to enforce their rules. But withdrawing what is in effect a licence to trade is so drastic a penalty that traders or brokers will think many times before applying it to their fellows. There needs to be a much more subtle range of penalties for transgression, from suspension to fines or undoing deals, if the system is to work.

Moreover, even today's progressive Stock Exchange Council shows some reluctance to give enough priority to providing enough information to customers to ensure they are dealing at the best prices - a new problem brought by the likely breakdown of the distinction between dealers and agents. Information is a far better protection for the investor than trying to impose artificial walls between different sections of the same firm.

This breakdown of the distinctions between advisers, agents and dealers brings wider problems. Broad principles laid down by statute will, in practice, require ever more detailed rules. That breeds a legalistic mentality that looks for loopholes rather than acting "in the spirit". As the Takeover Panel has discovered, that in turn leads to ever more detailed regulation, the inevitable bonanza for lawyers and can freeze practices so as to curb innovation and competition.

This trend needs to be watched carefully. For today, however, there need be few worries about that. The upsurge of competition and innovation has brought the need for a framework that can ensure fair play and confidence. That is the Government's domain and Mr Tebbit will do the City and the public a great service if he can put the new framework in place as quickly as possible to cope with some inevitably stormy times ahead.

## REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DUG ON

There is a danger in tying too many exaggerated expectations to the talks on the coal dispute which begin today. Of course there are the best possible reasons to wish a quick end to a strike which has caused such damage to our social and political life in so many ways and for so long. The end can scarcely be far off. But too much eagerness can actually defer the prospect of a just settlement. It may undermine the National Coal Board's negotiating position and put at risk all the crucially important gains which can and must be secured. There is a place for magnanimity, but it must be exercised within the context of a firm grasp of fundamental objectives. Preconditions or no preconditions, the gap between the expressed positions of the two sides remains as wide as ever.

The strike has been sustained in its course by an extraordinary succession of gleams of hope which proved false - hopes of rescue by the overscers, the railwaymen, the dockers (twice), the TUC, and the winter itself. Now there is virtually only one more light still left glimmering: the hope that the decline of the

pound will at some stage compel the Government to come to a compromise to reassure overseas investors. In this one respect, some miners may feel that time is still on their side.

But this is the most fallacious will o' the wisp of all. Certainly the economic uncertainty created by the strike is one factor of the pounds' decline, though it is a less significant one than the price of oil - for Britain is seen as a country floating on North Sea oil rather than one with its foundations rooted in cheap coal. In foreign eyes, the coal strike has been evidence that the British disease is still endemic. It has indeed affected confidence, and the only way that confidence can be restored will be to end the conflict on terms that leave no shadow of doubt that the strike has failed.

It is not only on the central issue of closures for economic reasons that a fudge would be disastrous. No bargain would be morally acceptable which jeopardised the interests of working miners for the sake of peace. There are still many pits where only a small number of courageous men have accepted the futility of the action and resolved

to cross the picket-lines. They have identified themselves now, and if the strike ends before there have been significant further returns they will be highly vulnerable to reprisals from a resentful majority.

The Coal Board must be ready to take the firmest disciplinary action to protect these workers. Its resolve in this regard will be judged largely by how firmly it maintains its refusal to re-engage the 500 or so miners who have been dismissed for various criminal offences during the dispute. It is too easy for dismissals even for sabotage or violence during a strike to be meted out and received as part of the shadow-play of the dispute, to be wiped away in the final negotiation. But some of these cases involve very severe attacks which are neither legally nor morally excused by having been made "in furtherance of a trade dispute", and which may too easily serve as a warning of retributions to be taken after the strike is over. The miners who, at real risk to themselves, rejected the irrational, intimidatory and unconstitutional struggle foisted on them by their leaders deserve better of us than that.

## BULL RING GRAND PRIX

Beware the spoilsports. This afternoon in the House of Commons they will be the ones raising their voices and saying nay when an innocuous piece of private legislation comes up for second reading. This is the Birmingham City Council Bill, better known as the Bull Ring Grand Prix Bill. It starts life as a harmless Birmingham self-promotion so that Niki Lauda can go burning rubber down the inner ring road, but it might, just might, end in the creation of jobs and opportunities for enterprise in a latter-day distressed area. Objecting to the bill will spin out proceedings, waste scarce parliamentary time and conceivably doom a measure which merits the support of those on the left who favour municipal self-help and, on the right, advocates of competition and private business regeneration.

Birmingham (all parties, all sectors) wants to stage motor racing in the city streets. Cue for guffaws about a backdrop devoid

of Monégasque palms. But urban racing has been projected in Paris and Detroit. Later this year formula one racing is planned along avenues of Rome laid out by an inter-war Italian planner with a fascination for railway time-tables. Birmingham's town planners of the 1950's may not have had grand prix racing in mind but they have bequeathed to the city a network of roads in which - the council says - it is feasible to carve a two and a half miles circuit with controlled spectator access.

To close roads and suspend the operations of the road traffic acts even if only for one day a year, Birmingham needs a bill - and no small bill, it must be said, its 21 clauses and three schedules showing just how extensive the regime of road regulations now is. The bill also empowers the council to spend ratepayers' money on a race; the project is meant to be self-financing and whether or not it is, is a matter entirely for the citizens of Birmingham. The only objec-

tions can come from vested interests - the parliamentary friends of Silverstone and Brands Hatch (whose income from grand prix is indeed vital to the maintenance of the infrastructure of Britain's thriving motor sport industry) and parliamentary friends of British cities jealous that they did not themselves first think of this way of putting their white elephants to work.

Motor racing in what used to be Britain's motown sounds fitting and if the economics of the sport and the politics (gallic and passionate) of the Fédération Internationale du Sport Automobile can stand it, then well and good. What matters is that Birmingham, true to tradition, is realizing that prosperity requires the local economy to adapt: if the service sector - such as grand prix racing - offers work that is where the city must re-specialize. And there should be no work among the government's supporters for spoilsports.

## Decline of sterling

From Dr R. P. Haining  
Sir, It seems that the present sterling crisis has a silver lining - the opportunity to pursue an export-led recovery, particularly through trade with the US. Even putting aside our lack of past success in this area, one might still wonder whether such expectations are reasonable.

Sterling has been a volatile currency and if competitiveness in foreign markets does indeed depend as crucially on exchange rates as claimed, it is hard to see why

companies should commit, over the long term, scarce capital to an export enterprise that might turn sour in some future round of exchange rate movements.

Such endeavours in markets they may know little about might appear ill-advised, particularly in the context of high interest rates.

The hope of export-led recovery is probably as unrealistic in the developing economic climate as the alternative of public-sector investment-led recovery, raising as it does the spectres of renewed inflation and rising imports.

A different objective should be to focus on reclaiming and developing lost home markets - since a falling pound, by raising the prices of imported goods, offers this more realistic opportunity as well.

One plank in such a policy ought to be the promotion of a more vigorous policy for the depressed regions of our country.

Yours faithfully,  
R. P. HAINING,  
University of Sheffield,  
Department of Geography,  
Sheffield, South Yorkshire,  
January 16.

## Protection of the child at work

From the Director of the Low Pay Unit

Sir, Robin Cook describes the Low Pay Unit as "assiduous" for its campaigns in defence of the wages councils (feature, January 23). Digby Anderson, writing on the same page about our recent report on child labour, considers us dangerously "progressive". Should we be flattered or insulted, I wonder?

In common parlance, "progress" is normally to be welcomed. In this context it might imply a move towards a situation in which school children are no longer employed illegally in factories and construction sites, in jobs which expose them to physical danger or leave them so tired that their school work suffers.

For Mr Anderson, describing himself with impeccable honesty as an "unlearned man in a blazer", all this is puzzling. Why should employers not use this school-age workforce as a cheap alternative to the labour of adults or school-leavers? Why should children be prevented from risking their own physical wellbeing?

Maybe only a dozen children out of our sample suffered "serious hurt" due to their employment, according to Mr Anderson's calculations. Tell that to the parents, or to the families of the 510 children who, according to the latest official statistics revealed since publication of the report, suffered major accidents at work in 1982 (a figure which understates the true picture).

Mr Anderson's views reflect the politics of smugness. And this is the importance of the two articles which nestle side by side in your paper: Robin Cook reminds us that the conservatism now in the ascendancy, starkly illustrated by Mr Anderson's self-satisfied jibes against progress, contrasts sharply with that which upholds principles of fairness and finds exploitation distasteful.

Churchill established the wages councils which this Government now plans to abolish; the Employment of Children Act, designed to provide better protection for children at work, passed through Parliament during the Heath government, although it has never since been brought into operation.

Those of us who welcome progress can only hope that the revitalization of liberal conservatism can encourage the "unlearned men in blazers" to develop a less self-satisfied approach.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRIS POND, Director,  
Low Pay Unit,  
9 Upper Berkeley Street, W1,  
January 24.

**Degree for Mrs Thatcher**  
From the Master of University College, Oxford

Sir, Everyone must have his own viewpoint, but I should be grateful if I might express my own that it would be entirely wrong to regard the question of an honorary degree for the Prime Minister as one involving any political implications.

The reason for the award should be that an Oxford graduate has, through the exercise of the democratic process, achieved the highest position in the land and for the first time ever that position has gone to a woman.

It would seem to me that this consideration and this consideration alone renders the award entirely appropriate and proper and nullifies the arguments to the contrary so far advanced. May I again say that this is a view that I express on my own behalf. Each and every one of my colleagues at this university will express their own opinion.

I will I think be reasonably well known that I am not and have never been a supporter of the Conservative Party. I seek the courtesy of your columns only because lameness prevents me from participating in the debate.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
GOODMAN,  
University College,  
Oxford,  
January 28.

**40 years of peace**  
From Sir John Dilke

Sir, Your Bonn correspondent (report, January 19) makes a number of valid and pertinent points about Germany and the fortieth anniversary of 1945, to which it is to be hoped due attention may be paid. It may also be helpful to consider the analogy between Germany after 1945 and France after 1815.

At the Congress of Vienna, after 26 years of fluctuating warfare and with the help of sometimes reluctant or unwilling allies, we succeeded in reducing France to a reasonable size and frame of mind, and ever since then the French have enjoyed more or less respectable governments.

Similarly after 1945, following 31 years of intermittent strife and disorder, and with the help of reluctant, uncertain or unwilling allies, we reduced Germany to a more reasonable situation, and since then the Germans have enjoyed more or less respectable governments. The East Germans have their allotted place in the new arrangement of Europe, like the Poles in 1815. That problem can be - indeed has been - dropped from the agenda.

We should all therefore address ourselves, as our ancestors did in 1815, to the formidable but not impracticable business of living beside the Bear, without becoming his dinner. Let those who wish to celebrate anniversaries do so in peace and concord, whether it be the Boynes, Hastings, or the fall of Constantinople or Rome.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN DILKE,  
Ludgits,  
Eitchingham,  
Sussex,  
January 21.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Public interest in a plan for coal

From the Directors of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, the Policy Studies Institute and the Joint Energy Programme

Sir, Some time in the next few days or weeks the coal strike is likely to be settled, presumably on the basis which excludes the NUM demand that pits shall not be closed on economic grounds. Some more positive plans will now have to be agreed between Government, NCB and mineworkers about the future of the industry, if only because the existing and much abused Plan for Coal expires this year.

This will set the size and shape of the coal industry, which affects not only those who work in it but also consumers and taxpayers, for many years to come.

We are profoundly concerned lest these plans may be worked out behind closed doors in Whitehall without public discussion of the proper place of coal in the UK energy economy or of the desirable balance between imports and domestic production.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES EBERLE (Royal Institute of International Affairs),  
JOHN PINDER (Policy Studies Institute),  
ROBERT BELGRAVE (Joint Energy Programme),  
10 St James's Square, SW1,  
January 25.

this quadrilateral. But as a second pole, abundant resources of cheaply worked coal have been opened up overseas even since 1944 and press on the markets.

Questions and debates about free trade versus protection in national provisions for coal energy in some ways recapitulate Victorian debates about free trade versus protection in national provisions for corn, and indeed they involve human as well as technical economic issues of similar complexity.

A third pole of the energy quadrilateral is, of course, the successful generation of energy from nuclear resources, where British inventiveness and managerial skills have much to give to the world, as well as to British industry. And fourthly, it can hardly be disputed that Britain has been singled out quite providentially through favourable energy supplies from North Sea oil deposits, though whether we are making more than a transient spendthrift use of this unique energy bonus can be disputed.

In all, the British energy quadrilateral now calls for much improved handling, not only in regard to humans concerned, but with regard to technical economic issues affecting the whole country.

I am, etc.,  
A. R. UBELLOHDE,  
Imperial College,  
Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology,  
Prince Consort Road, SW7,  
January 24.

From Professor A. R. Ubellohde, FRS  
Sir, It may be a shock to those not in the NUM to realise that its structure has remained "fixed" since 1944. Changes to keep the running of the coal industry fully acceptable both to its members and to the country as a whole might naturally be expected, and regarded with sympathy. But when contemplating optimum provisions for British energy needs, the situation is quite different from 1944, since we now have at least a quadrilateral to consider.

Fully effective provisions from British coal remain a major pole of

From Mrs M. Smyth  
Sir, Is it too much to hope that when the coal strike ends we shall not hear the words "victory" or "defeat" nor a whole might naturally be expected, and regarded with sympathy. But when contemplating optimum provisions for British energy needs, the situation is quite different from 1944, since we now have at least a quadrilateral to consider.

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### Teachers' assessment

From Professor A. M. Ross  
Sir, Though we did not publish the survey to which Mr Morris refers (January 23) till 1982, the information was collected in 1979/80. The figures on the school teaching experience of the teacher trainers were certainly revealing and the system moved fast to alter the situation we found. Were a survey to be undertaken now a somewhat different picture would appear.

However, let Sir Keith Joseph and Mr Morris reflect also on the fact that whatever the faults of our training system may be, remarkably few newly-qualified entrants fail the probationary year. Since all problematical cases are seen by Her Majesty's Inspectors (at the suggestion of the employers concerned) this would seem to indicate a high level of satisfaction on the part of those who receive our product.

No doubt we "could do better" and we shall, but meanwhile let us not interfere with the national sport of baiting the teacher-trainers.

ALEC ROSS, Director,  
School of Education,  
University of Lancaster,  
University House, Lancaster.

### Children in custody

Frank Mr Maurice Logan-Salton  
Sir, Is there not a case for applying to social workers and probation officers a similar system of evaluation to that proposed for teachers by Sir Keith Joseph?

The rate of increase in the admission of children to custodial institutions which are likely to make them even worse in their attitudes and behaviour has soared, despite the massive decrease in the school-age population. The admissions are for increasingly minor offences.

The social-work profession has had immediate access to excellent residential facilities, which, if used appropriately, could decrease the possibility of a youngster's eventual admission to a Prison Department establishment.

A Monday Club paper, of which I was the author (Institutions for Young Offenders) refers to "the tragedy of children being increasingly sent to institutions where the staff neither have the skill, nor the training, nor much interest, in assessing and working through their problematic behaviour".

Perhaps the social workers and probation officers who, for administrative convenience, actually recommend to courts that juveniles are sent to custodial institutions, might have more in common with that description of some Prison Department staff than their professional associations would wish to admit.

Yours faithfully,  
MAURICE LOGAN-SALTON,  
43 Falmouth Road,  
Heaton,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne,  
January 15.

### Age of chivalry

From Commander James Wood, RN (ret'd)  
Sir, Because I am only 68 and pride myself on looking quite fit and even virile, I too was a little nonplussed, while standing in a crowded Tube, to be offered her seat by a comely young lady of about 20.

However, I recovered just enough presence of mind to accept with alacrity, provided she sat on my knee.

I hope to remain, Sir, your most constant reader  
JAMES WOOD,  
Kinsham Court,  
Kinsham, Nr Presteigne, Powys.

### Trial of Syed Kazim

From Mrs Midah Rushworth  
Sir, Your correspondent's despatch (January 11) from Islamabad about the secret trial of Syed Raza Kazim does not convey that during his "year in custody" he has been held in solitary confinement, subjected to barbarous treatment and continuous interrogations. Recently, seriously debilitated and ill, he has been sadistically exposed to the cold winds on the top of Attock Fort in the far north of the country.

Although his state of health has been known since March to be very grave, the Pakistan Government has persisted in its story that he is well, ignoring requests for independent medical opinion.

The military authorities have had a full year to prepare their case, yet the prosecution is based only on statements obtained by torture from

### Accusative ending

From Miss Lynn Craig  
Sir, If I may jump on your linguistic see-saw... Your editorial of January 22 makes reference to "Scargillite MPs". Is it by design or whimsy that Scargill spawks "Scargillite" - thus joining ranks with "Benite" - "cordite" and other explosive substances whereas Churchill is accorded the veneration enjoyed by "Virgilian", "Oxonian", "Georgian" et al?

I think we should be told.

Yours faithfully,  
LYNNE CRAIG,  
Clackmannan College of Further Education, Branshill Road,  
Alloa, Clackmannanshire.

### Cyprus breakdown

From Mr Cyril D. Townsend, MP for Bexleyheath (Conservative) and Mr Alfred Dubs, MP for Battersea (Labour)

Sir, The precise causes of the breakdown of the United Nations summit meeting on Cyprus are, as yet, unclear. It appears, however, that the two main stumbling blocks have been the interrelated questions of Turkish troop withdrawal and differing interpretations, on the part of President Kyprianou and Mr Denktash, as to the *raison d'être* of the summit itself.

If it is the case, as Mr de Cuellar clearly believes, that there has, despite the present acrimonious exchanges, been a substantial "narrowing of the gap", then there is an overwhelming case for a new summit meeting to be convened at the earliest possible date. We therefore urge the British Government, and the international community, to support the Secretary General's request for such a meeting and to play an active part in ironing out such misunderstandings as arose during the current round of talks.

On the question of Turkish troop withdrawal, which Mr Denktash

## ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 29 1913  
Following the defeat of Turkey in the Balkan Wars (1912-1913), Macedonia, hitherto a province of the Ottoman Empire, was divided between Greece, Bulgaria and Serbia (Yugoslavia) in August 1913.

## THE MASSACRES IN MACEDONIA

(From our own correspondent)  
CONSTANTINOPLE JAN 28  
The *Jeune Ture* has recently been carrying on a campaign against the atrocities which, it alleged, have been committed by the Allies and its articles have been reproduced in Committee organs here. The figures have been much exaggerated, and there seems good reason to believe that the main object of this organ is to divert popular attention from the errors and misdeeds of the Committee of Union and Progress, especially the Jewish element therein, and to excite the hostility of the masses against the Christians. It is curious that the German and Austrian newspapers, now quoted in the *Jeune Ture* as "able exceptions" to the silence of the European Press, should have maintained such a remarkable calm during the atrocities which accompanied the disarmament of Macedonia (the application of the Baul Law) and the campaign against the Malisovci.

That great atrocities have been committed on both sides in Macedonia is only too true, but to estimate the number of Muslims massacred in Macedonia at half a million is a colossal exaggeration. There are not more than 600,000 Muslims in Macedonia, and although a Census taken as the present moment would show a great decrease in the numbers, this is due mainly to the fact that the Muslims of Macedonia have borne the brunt of the fighting in the western theatre of war, losing heavily both in killed and in emigration. The numbers have emigrated to Constantinople and Asia Minor.

The number of non-combatants who perished in the massacres is not easily ascertained, but on each side as I have been able to ascertain, it is believed that a maximum of 20,000 Muslims and 15,000 Christians in the whole of European Turkey.

The Muslims were mostly killed by irregulars or in the peasant *gajetovic*, which followed the retreat of the Turkish troops; massacres took place at Seres, where 800 were killed, mostly by followers of San-dansky, the former *protége* of the Young Turks; and in the Strumitza region between Gumuljina and Keshan, where it is believed over 1,500 were killed and many women were outraged. The Christians suffered most in the Drama-Novrokop area, where over 800 Bulgarian Christians were killed on November 4, without distinction of sex or age; in the village of Plevna, where 182 were burned; in the barracks near Demir-Hissar many more were slain; in the Djuma-i-Bala-Novrokop region, in the country between Gumuljina and Keshan, where a mass killing is believed to have taken place in the Strumitza district, for the most part after trial by revolutionary Court-martial, cannot be described as reprisals since less than 50 Christians had been killed in that region before the advent of the forces of the Balkan League. Accusations are taken from well-informed sources that the slaughter of non-combatants in the *vilayet* of Kosovo was confined to the districts between Uakub and Kumanovo (by retreating Turkish troops) and between the river and Gilano. If a quarter of the information is believed, the true Albanian irregulars committed crimes especially upon women and children, for the description of which dead languages must be used, and the Serbs behaved as did British troops under similar provocation at Camprose and elsewhere in 1857.

Taking it all in all, I am reluctantly compelled to admit that it is a case of six of the one and half a dozen of the other, and it would seem that Europe would be better employed in relieving the sufferings of the survivors than in attempting to fix the responsibility for these horrors, which ultimately falls upon the heads of certain of her deceased statesmen.

### People and places

From Mr D. J. Corney  
Sir, Between London and Colchester one may make the acquaintance of Sible Hedingham (her ladyship), Ivy Chimneys (her daily), Tolleshunt D'Arcy (her lover), Margaret Roding (her rival) and, of course, Black Nolley (her downfall).  
Yours sincerely,  
D. J. CORNEY,  
17 Woodside Road,  
Plaistow, E13.

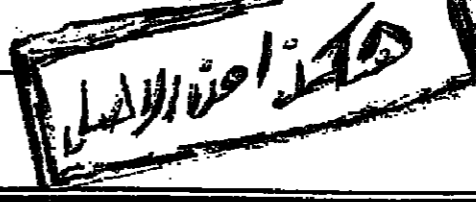
### From Lady Tudor Evans

Sir, Mr Adams (January 18) may care to have the latest scandal from the Wolds. Our local gossip, commonly called Bag Enderby, alleges that Lord of the Manor, Sir Clabys Pluckercy was the protector of Mavis Enderby long before Old Bolingbroke, in his dotage, publicly announced the notorious liaison.

The New Bolingbroke refuses to comment.  
YOURS FAITHFULLY,  
SHEILAGH TUDOR EVANS,  
Ashby Puerorum,  
Near Horncastle,  
Lincolnshire,  
January 23.



THE ARTS



Television Games at sea

Submarine (BBC 1) probed further depths in "Ocean Safari: The Kill", an account of an exercise in which HMS Warrior adopted the role of a Russian submarine. The captain launched a pre-emptive strike against a naval convoy with great glee but, given the boredom and claustrophobia which this series has evoked so well, his enthusiasm for any kind of action was understandable. It was not clear if everyone concerned knew that they were acting out a fantasy but, since most of their time seemed to be spent in playing games (social or otherwise), perhaps it does not matter. Like all programmes about sophisticated warfare, one's response was a mixture of alarm at the nature of the hardware and reassurance at the apparent ordinariness of the men who employ it. And the details were interesting, as details generally are.

Peter Ackroyd

Bright spots among the muted browns and greys

112th Annual Exhibition of Watercolours and Drawings Agnew Muirhead Bone Mercury Town and Country Christopher Wood William Müller Tait Sir Reginald Blomfield Heinz

"The trouble with all those English watercolours is that you can't tell one from the other. They all look to me as though they were painted by the same man on the same day. Art for people who aren't interested in art." Thus, to me, one of Britain's more distinguished senior artists recently. He was muttering specifically about the contents of Agnew's 112th Annual Watercolour Exhibition (until February 23), but he might as well have been talking about half-a-dozen other shows on in London at the moment, in public or commercial galleries.

Noël Goodwin

There are, at Agnew's, a lot of run-of-the-mill pieces: scenes of hill and wood and river sketched in muted tones of green and brown and grey, which draw on the traditional imagery of the English countryside in a way which is pleasant and unchallenging, will displease no one but also make no one's heart beat noticeably faster. That is what one would expect with any exhibition which contained some 250 paintings, especially if it had been drawing on the same body of work for 112 years. But happily the English watercolourists were not content always to paint the same things in the same way. Even in a show which has never taken much account of the extraordinary uses to which the medium has been put by such twentieth-century masters as Edward Burra and Paul Nash - the latest works here, as usual, are by Albert Goodwin, one dated 1913 - there is a sufficient variety of talent, subject-matter and attitude to keep responses fresh. What, for instance, is Turner thinking of turning *The Valley of the Wharfe* with *Olney, from Calley Park* into some glowing Italianate vista, or Rowlandson producing an almost perfectly straight view of *Snowdon* from *Llanberis Lake*, where the landscape is all and we are left to guess at the attitude of bemused locals to the party of picturesque-fancying tourists out boating? Both artists are represented by more than one work, and when Rowlandson is being typical, such lively effect as in *Coverd Garden Market* few are likely to cavil.

Hilary Finch

Amittedly such excitements are not part of the watercolour-fancier's common round, though a similar *multum-in-parvo* effect can be observed in some of the splendid watercolours by Muirhead Bone which make up the major part of the long-overdue tribute at the Mercury Gallery (until February 23). Bone has tended to be overlooked, partly because he was one of the least pretentious of his generation (he was born in 1876 and died in 1953), and fell all too conformably between the more determined modernists, like Paul Nash, and the more steady, reliable academics. Also, though he was one of the best illustrators with a topographical bent between the wars, he tended to illustrate popular books (notably the two on "Old Spain" by his wife Gertrude) in popular, inexpensive processes, so missed out on the snob appeal of the private press and the very limited edition. His prime and fairly lasting reputation was as an etcher and engraver, and this shows a rather suitable attention to that aspect of his work, which sometimes proves to be surprisingly modern, as in his very spare, geometrical views of Manhattan in the distance, from a 1923 trip. His fascination with architecture (and indeed the processes of building and demolition) is also clear in graphics and drawings like *Building the New Bedford*. But I suspect the main memory the show will leave is of Bone's amazing ability to conjure up the vast windswept spaces of inland Spain with a few confident splashes of watercolour in about three square inches.

Nicholas Kenyon



Summer heat: John Frederick Lewis's evocative *On the Terrace at Ischia*

Something similar might be said of Sir Reginald Blomfield and the show the RIBA is devoting to him at the Heinz Gallery until February 23. Noted as an architectural historian as well as a busy and successful architect in his own right, he advocated a decent, well-mannered classicism, going back to Wren for his inspirations, which found a ready response in the many rich Edwardians and Edwardian institutions that employed him. His talent was seldom transfused by the eccentricity and sheer bloody-mindedness which make Lutyens so interesting (though his Lincoln water tower, especially as he projects it, is certainly eye-oddy; rather, he is the respectable, totally professional middle-of-the-roader.

John Russell Taylor

Muller is altogether quieter: he travelled much, died young, and specialized in historical evocations of castles and palaces in their heyday or more immediate views of desert life in his own. He was highly regarded from his death in 1845 until the end of the century, and has since had little notice taken of him. But the Tate has a lot, and has borrowed more, to make an agreeable introduction to a not quite justly forgotten artist.

John Russell Taylor

LSO/Del Mar Barbican

"Happy birthday, Jack!" proclaimed an extra jacket on the programme book on Sunday when the London Symphony Orchestra featured their principal clarinetist Jack Brymer, in his own 70th birthday concert, a date which, as he reminded us, he shared with Mozart and Jerome Kern. His colleagues worked him hard for the celebration, making him the soloist in two concertos, then bringing him back to his orchestral place for the Tchaikovsky Fourth Symphony at the end. He also introduced the works they performed with Norman Del Mar conducting, illustrating the urbane microphone manner that has made Mr Brymer a popular broadcaster as well as a musician of practised artistry. All that is, except the Mozart concerto which, as he said afterwards, he realized had no need of words to preface it, and besides, he could "feel the shade of the composer up above telling me to get on with it". In doing just that he expressed much of what the concerto has meant to him in performance, since he began his career nearly 40 years ago with a surprise summons from Sir Thomas Beecham, as Peter

Concerts Only skin deep

RPO/Weller Festival Hall Sir Michael Tippett's Second Symphony, the one whose opening bars the BBC Symphony Orchestra tripped over at its first performance in February, 1958, and whose conductor has since been described as "one of the securest sounds in twentieth-century music". Neither accident nor assurance, though, made its imprint on Sunday night's performance. The Royal Philharmonic's birthday present to Sir Michael, parcelled up by Walter Weller, persuaded us well enough that the music is still far from easy, yet without adequately conveying its very challenge. Between the pounding, Vivaldi-inspired Bass Cs, in turn propulsive and valdectory, which form the work's entrance and exit, the symphony's activity seems as programmed but as unpredictable as a dance of molecules. Here, though, the particles never seemed quite sure enough of their place to be themselves the dance, rather than merely mark its movements.

Noël Goodwin

Concerts Only skin deep

It was, for instance, the vertical demarcations rather than the horizontal imperus of the first movement's repetitive patterns of which we were most acutely aware. And, despite Mr Weller's sensitive control of the flux of pulse and instrumental grouping in the Adagio, the third movement's "tour de force of inequality" (Tippett's description of the scherzo) sounded just too much of a tussle. It was all very much a matter of selection - or the lack of it. The work's bold blazes, its driving purpose, its sense of ritualized violence, looking back to Stravinsky and forward to *Priam*, lacked courage in their setting forth. A quarter of a century later, the work deserves to come from deeper under the skin than this. Radu Lupu's performance of the Mozart K488 Piano Concerto, at once lucid and lambent, was, on the other hand, more than usually deeply absorbed, rapt in its rich assimilation of delicately balanced interpretative response.

Hilary Finch

Daniel Barenboim Festival Hall

A quarter of a century since he first played the cycle (and he is still only 43), Daniel Barenboim has returned to Beethoven's piano sonatas. There is a new complete recording on Deutsche Grammophon, and on Sunday afternoon he treated us to four of the sonatas. He has certainly been practising. These performances had a sophisticated air of sound, technique, polish and musicianship which took one right back to the time when Barenboim first made such an impression. This recital asserted that Barenboim is one of the most prodigiously talented, naturally musical pianists we have. Whether he is also one of our greatest Beethoven pianists, however, I began to doubt. What remains in the mind after the concert is mostly stunning pianism: the climax of the first movement of the "Waldstein" swept along with terrifying force and precision; the slow movement of Op 28, with its counterpoint between staccato and legato phrasing; and the wonderfully well-balanced theme of the Op 109 Sonata's variations, every note singing, every chord perfectly placed.

Nicholas Kenyon

Opera Orphée aux enfers

Espece Pierre Cardin, Paris In a programme note for his production of *Orphée aux enfers* for Le Théâtre Français de l'Opérette at the Espace Pierre Cardin, Jorge Lavelli is unequivocal about the need to take the work seriously. Style in opera is more complex than in opera, he says, and must render impossible all traditional gags and incidental or transitory effects, in order to preserve the "intelligent, sensible and conscious" musical humour which is the true driving-force in Offenbach. Furthermore, there is no essential difference between the Offenbach of *Orphée* and the Offenbach of Hoffmann. It is Lavelli's intention to realize this human subtext to Crémieux and Halévy's upturned version of the Orpheus myth without any loss of theatrical enchantment. Accordingly, he has assembled a libretto midway between the two-act original of 1858, in which the spoken text was of primary importance, and the four-act spectacular of 1874. On this occasion, certainly,

Nicholas Kenyon

Opera Orphée aux enfers

Charles Ossola as Jupiter and André Dran, as Ariste/Pluton act and sing with poise and authority. Dran, particularly, is a master of the throwaway line. L'Opinion publique (Bernadette Antoinette), played from a wheelchair to suggest a sort of vigorous impotence, has a severe integrity which transcends mere bossiness. Visually the production is delightful - once Pluton has destroyed the pantomime cornfield suspended from waist-high ropes which require the actors to duck whenever they move onstage. Olympus is a vast circular bed floating in the clouds, and the young goddesses take a tepid shower when they wake. Pluton's boudoir has a splendidly slick keyhole which expands to allow Jupiter (disguised as a fly and in pursuit of Eurydice) to enter. Hell, it turns out, is much like the Pompidou Centre: all pipes and ducts. There is nevertheless much classiness in the production. The opening number, sung offstage with the curtains closed, seems merely perverse, the ducking and diving through the cornfield is distracting and many groupings are cluttered and dramatically unclear.

Tom Aitken

Opera Orphée aux enfers

Box Office Open 9am-9pm. Victoria Palace 01-434 1317. From March 2-12 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 13-14 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 15-16 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 17-18 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 19-20 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 21-22 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 23-24 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 25-26 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 27-28 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 29-30 (1985) 01-434 1317. From March 31 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 1-2 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 3-4 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 5-6 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 7-8 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 9-10 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 11-12 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 13-14 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 15-16 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 17-18 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 19-20 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 21-22 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 23-24 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 25-26 (1985) 01-434 1317. From April 27-28 (1985) 01-434 1317. 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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares and gilts slump

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings, began, Jan 28. Dealings end, Feb 8. Contango Day, Feb 11. Settlement Day, Feb 18. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio. From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

Table with 10 columns: No., Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DRAPERY AND STORES, MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT, and INDUSTRIALS E-K.

Weekly Dividend table with columns for MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN. Includes a note: 'Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.'

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists various funds like Shortcuts (Under Five Years), Five to Fifteen Years, and Over Fifteen Years.

INDEX-LINKED

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists index-linked shares like British Gas, British Telecom, etc.

BREWERIES

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists breweries like Asahi, Beck's, etc.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists banks like Allied Irish, Anglo Irish, etc.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the BUILDING AND ROADS sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the FINANCE AND LAND sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the FOODS sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the CHEMICALS, PLASTICS sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the CINEMAS AND TV sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the DRAPERY AND STORES sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the HOTELS AND CATERERS sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the INDUSTRIALS A-D sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the INDUSTRIALS E-K sector.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, 1984/85 Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Yld, P/E. Lists companies in the INDUSTRIALS L-R sector.

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THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000. Claims required for -14 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

At least it was due to market forces

The Chancellor, embarrassingly button-hold by a Commons select committee yesterday, did his best to talk up sterling, which however, remains down on the start of the year despite a 4.5 point rise in the banks' base rates.

At one stage during the six-and-a-half week takeover battle, Hanson's six-for-three share exchange terms were worth 26p more than the Powell Duffryn share price in the stock market, providing a powerful incentive for accepting the bid as a cheap way into Hanson.

Not so yesterday, when the differential narrowed to 3p in after-hours trading - small enough to make the institutions think twice before accepting the bid - and apparent support for Powell Duffryn's contention that its share price will not suffer too badly if the bid lapses.

Should shareholders accept? Powell Duffryn has put up a sterling, if somewhat unexciting, defence. Normally, shareholders should give the victim the benefit of the doubt in such a closely-fought takeover battle.

But, like Hanson Trust, Powell Duffryn is a conglomerate for all its arguments about there being a common link between its businesses. There is no justification for an amalgam of such diverse interests unless it can provide a distinctive management philosophy that produces results.

Here the record is clear: Powell Duffryn has been a dull performer and Hanson Trust has been outstanding. The terms of Hanson's bid for Powell are not generous but past experience suggests shareholders will do better in the long run by accepting.

of which Hanson is a constituent, is bound to make the outcome more finely balanced.

At one stage during the six-and-a-half week takeover battle, Hanson's six-for-three share exchange terms were worth 26p more than the Powell Duffryn share price in the stock market, providing a powerful incentive for accepting the bid as a cheap way into Hanson.

Not so yesterday, when the differential narrowed to 3p in after-hours trading - small enough to make the institutions think twice before accepting the bid - and apparent support for Powell Duffryn's contention that its share price will not suffer too badly if the bid lapses.

Should shareholders accept? Powell Duffryn has put up a sterling, if somewhat unexciting, defence. Normally, shareholders should give the victim the benefit of the doubt in such a closely-fought takeover battle.

But, like Hanson Trust, Powell Duffryn is a conglomerate for all its arguments about there being a common link between its businesses. There is no justification for an amalgam of such diverse interests unless it can provide a distinctive management philosophy that produces results.

Here the record is clear: Powell Duffryn has been a dull performer and Hanson Trust has been outstanding. The terms of Hanson's bid for Powell are not generous but past experience suggests shareholders will do better in the long run by accepting.

Display of unity over unitary tax

Battle-hardened veterans of the campaign against unitary taxation are beginning to feel that the struggle is going their way. Yesterday representatives from many of the groups with an interest in seeing American states repeal their unitary tax laws met at the Confederation of British Industry in a remarkable display of unity.

Their spirits were raised by the evident support the campaign has aroused and the encouragement from Assemblyman Dennis Brown, of California, and Mr Ernest Dronenberg, chairman of the State Board of Equalization, that the state might this year finally scrap unitary taxation of foreign companies. Colorado, a much less important state, is preparing to repeal its law.

But the campaign is not home and dry yet. American companies which will gain nothing from California settling for a "water's edge" solution to exempt foreigners, are spending heavily in Sacramento. The new bill is unlikely to be debated properly before the autumn, so there is plenty of time to noble legislators. The worst outcome would be repetition of last year when the bill ran out of time.

With this in mind, the campaign is still pressing for retaliatory legislation to be incorporated in the Budget, and the early day motion has attracted well over 200 signatures - a sizeable number for so technical an issue. Whether the threat of retaliation will backfire and harden the resolve of some Californians to resist foreign pressure is another matter.

It does appear, however, that the united front of industry, the Inland Revenue, and the Unitary Tax Campaign pressure group, along with their counterparts on the Continent, has won allies in high places. Mrs Thatcher has brought the issue up with President Reagan and Mr Lawson discussed it with Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, on his visit to Washington. The transfer of Mr Regan to the White House to become Chief of Staff may also help.

Shake-out boost for Powell Duffryn

Yesterday's bloodbath in the stock market had merchant bankers and investors rushing to their calculators to rework the arithmetic of the current crop of equity-related takeover bids. The shake-out could hardly have come at a better time for Powell Duffryn, the besieged fuel distributor to shipping and engineering group.

Hanson Trust's contested £173 million takeover bid closes finally at 3pm today and the plunge in the FT 30-share index.

Dunlop seeks way to reduce dilution

The board of Dunlop Holdings, which is fighting a £33 million takeover bid from BTR, is negotiating with its creditor banks to devise a scheme which would reduce the dilution of existing shareholders' investments without substantially altering the proposed capital reconstruction.

Under the terms of the package shareholders would eventually hold a maximum of 63 per cent of the proposed enlarged-share capital. The Dunlop Shareholders Association has been pressing the board to change the terms so that investors who wanted no dilution could achieve this by buying shares from the pool which will be held by the banks.

The banks are now talking to the Dunlop board to find a way of implementing this without changing the proposed reconstruction package, which will be put to shareholders for approval at an extraordinary meeting on February 8.

Despite the fall in the stock market yesterday Dunlop's shares were unchanged at 38p buoyed by the news that Mr Ivan Boesky, the US risk arbitrator, had taken a stake.

BTR's shares fell 12p to 657p which under the terms of its share offer value Dunlop at 22.3p a share. This is underwritten by a cash offer of 20p.

Stormy Opec talks struggle to agree new price structure

From David Young, Geneva

Oil ministers of the 13 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are now considering their price structure - all involving an effective price cut - despite the emergence of deep-rooted disagreement among the delegates.

At one point yesterday Dr Mana Saeed Otaiba of the United Arab Emirates, stormed out of the ministerial meeting.

He was back within an hour, after Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, and Professor Tam David-West, the Nigerian oil minister, had persuaded him that he had misunderstood remarks made by Nigeria.

Dr Otaiba's abrupt departure from the meeting came about after the Nigerian oil minister had asked for some clarification of a report of the Opec monitoring committee, whose meeting had been chaired by Dr Otaiba.

Dr Otaiba left the meeting saying that Nigeria's action in undercutting the official Opec price and in producing more



Tam David-West yesterday: remarks misunderstood

several of the light oil producers are arguing that the gap between light and heavy prices rather than cutting light.

New figures presented to Opec yesterday show that its production is now down to nearer 14 million barrels a day, compared with its self-imposed quota limit of 16.5 million barrels a day and that stocks in

industrialized countries have been drawn down by 5 million, and possibly 7 million barrels.

Sheikh Yamani said that the Opec output figure was genuine. "The new monitoring system is now working," he added.

Opec is divided between those who want to see the present \$4 differential gap narrowed to \$3 and those who say that the present market realities indicate a cut in the gap to \$2.50. A third grouping of the light producers, Nigeria and Algeria, want to see that gap narrowed even further to \$1.50 to bring their prices into line with those now being seen in the North Sea.

Opec has been unable to draw any comfort from the latest predictions of North Sea oil output published by the influential Petroleum Intelligence Weekly yesterday.

It forecasts that total production from Britain and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea this year could rise to more than 3.5 million barrels a day, slightly more than present output of Saudi Arabia.

Shares rebound from worst fall

By Our City Staff

Stocks and shares had their worst day for months yesterday. Prices plunged as the Bank endorsed a 2 per cent rise in base rates and sterling hit a low against most currencies amid fears that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries talks had collapsed.

At one point the Financial Times 30-share index recorded its worst single fall, down 44.1 points to 958.7 points. It wiped more than £7 billion off share values. Prices of government stocks lost up to £4 at one point, the largest single fall for several years.

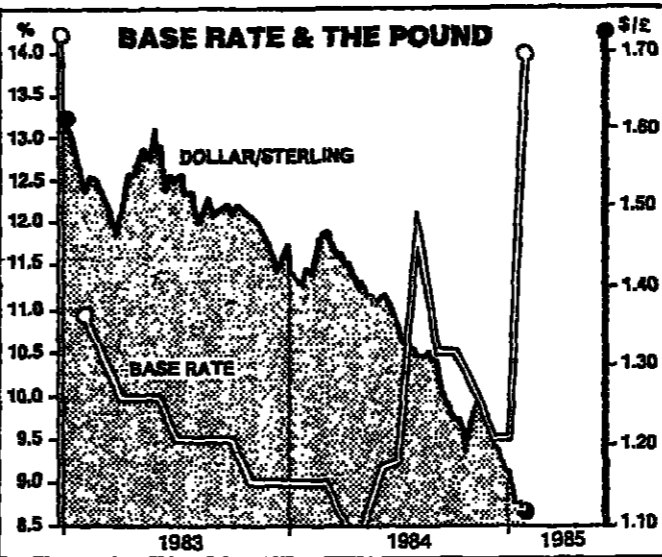
However, both markets showed some recovery before the close as the pound steadied and Wall Street opened firm. The index ended the day down 24.9 points and gilts finished above their worst levels.

The gilts market took a hammering after the rate rise, falling sharply by midday when dealings were suspended for 45 minutes to allow the market time to catch its breath.

After the unusual suspension, described by the Bank of England as "normal", gilts gave up further ground and were up to £4 lower at the long-end at one point. Although prices rebounded slightly, the market slipped again closing about £2.7, down on the day at the long-end.

With gilt yields still well below the level of interest rates, dealers were reluctant to buy into the market. "I don't think yields of 12 1/2 per cent in shorts are good enough," one said yesterday.

A heavy early morning rush to cover long positions on the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) forced a suspension of trading in the three-month sterling and



long gilt contracts yesterday as they fell by the maximum permitted amount. The sterling contract traded within the widest range seen since Liffe opened in 1982.

Traders were desperate to liquidate positions as interest rates threatened to rise, resulting in some of the biggest volumes in the exchange's history. The March sterling interest rate contract traded 4,909 lots and the long gilt traded 6,162.

The sterling contract, which is sensitive to interest rate fluctuations, opened at 87.60, below Friday's close of 88.15, and by 10.30 had fallen by the 100 basis points limits. After being suspended for an hour, it collapsed again to 86.35, the low point, before the base rate announcement sent it back up to close at 86.72.

Long gilts were suspended for two hours at 11.30 am after falling by 2 percentage points from 103.01. They then slipped

again to 100.24, but ended the day at 101.22.

The interest rate rise will hit companies with heavy borrowings. There were fears about the engineering and building sectors, in particular.

Mr Michael Blogg of the stockbroking firm Savory Milin thought engineering companies were in better shape to face up to the burden than two or three years ago.

However, several big companies, such as BTR, which is bidding for Dunlop, John Brown and Blackwood Hodge have heavy debts. Other vulnerable businesses are those with a high proportion of their work in Britain.

Mr Blogg said: "This obviously isn't going to encourage capital spending and no doubt everyone will hope the dearer interest rates are a short term measure." But if they lasted longer than two months some spending plans could be axed.

Societies likely to raise rates

By Richard Thomson

The rise in bank rates yesterday put renewed pressure on mortgage rates, but building societies say they will wait to let markets settle before deciding on a rate change.

However, if base rates look like remaining at 14 per cent for some time the societies are likely to raise their rates by up to 1 per cent.

Mr Roy Gravestock, assistant general manager of the Halifax, said: "We can only hold out at present levels if the base rise is temporary. The recent rise in our rates at least gives us some breathing space. It was a sensible decision to raise them when we did."

A spokesman for the Woolwich, the fifth largest society, said: "Societies will almost certainly have to raise their rates if base rates are still at 14 per cent when the BSA meets."

The Building Societies Association next meets on February 7. The societies are reluctant to charge more on loans for fear of choking off mortgage demand. Mr Tim Melville-Ross of the Nationwide said: "Being able to lend enough at higher rates would be a real problem."

The societies also face renewed competition for deposits from the Department of National Savings and the clearing banks. National Savings said yesterday that it was not altering for the time being the new package of higher rates.

But several clearing banks have raised their higher deposit rates to over 13 per cent gross, which matches building society accounts.

SE talks resume

The Stock Exchange Council today resumes its discussion of radical constitutional change that will allow ownership of the market to pass from the 4,500 individuals who at present control it into corporate hands.

It will be the fourth attempt this month by the 52 members of the council to find a solution. The council needs the support of at least 75 per cent of the market's members for any changes in the constitution. Meanwhile, the White Paper on financial services, setting out a new framework backed by statute for regulation in the City, is due today. The Stock Exchange is set to become one of the self-regulating authorities envisaged by the Government.

TVS surge

Television South increased pretax profits by 83 per cent to £8.2 million last year. The company now has 10 per cent of total television advertising revenue. The payout for the year is 6p.

Shares of Lyle Shipping were suspended yesterday at 15p, a shade off their low for the past 12 months, while the loss-making group completes a refinancing package which will involve raising more equity capital. Formal documents are due this week. A halt was called to the share trading while the package was underwritten. Lyle's shares changed hands at 11 1/2p last year.

Norsk soars

Norsk Data, the Norwegian mini-computer manufacturer, raised 1984 pretax profits by 60 per cent to 250 million kroner (£22.6 million) on operating revenue up 53 per cent.

McCorquodale, the specialist printer, publisher and packaging company, is raising £14.8 million with a one-for-four rights issue. In four months the company has spent £7.8 million on three acquisitions and will continue to invest in new technology. Orders, sales and profits are all ahead of last year's, the company said.

Midland move

Midland Bank will announce today that it will be adjusting its higher interest Saver Plus and Griffin accounts to maintain the interest premium when composite rate tax is introduced on April 5. Both accounts pay up to 2 per cent above the basic deposit rate, and this premium will be maintained.

Hillards ahead

Hillards, the independent supermarket chain based in Yorkshire, increased interim pretax profits to £3.6 million from £3.3 million. Turnover, including VAT, rose from £117.6 million to £131.7 million. The interim dividend is 1.7p against 1.45p.

Warning over City 'conflicts'

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Conflicts of interest will abound in the new financial groupings being formed in the City, making present moves to improve the nature and structure of regulation particularly timely, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday.

He told the Institute of Bankers in Scotland today's White Paper setting out the Government's proposals would mark an important stage in the process. The upheavals in the City raised challenging questions about the relationship between different supervisory authorities. Capital adequacy would need to be as much a preoccupation for the regulators of the securities and investment industries as it is for the bank regulator and as solvency margins are for the insurance regulator, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said.

He did not believe small firms would be extinguished by the big groupings.

Stylo fights bid with £2.25m forecast

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

The swords may be drawn in the battle between British Land and Stylo, the Leeds show company, but Mr Arnold Ziff, chairman of Stylo, says "there is no chink in the armour" of his board's defence strategy against the bid by British Land, chaired by Mr John Ritblat.

To prove his point, Mr Ziff forecasts profits of not less than £2.25 million for the year just ending, more than double last year's profits and says that "prospects for growth are enormous".

The Stylo board is recommending a dividend of 4.5p a share, also double last year's figure. Mr Ziff maintains that he has strong support in fighting off the British Land bid, arguing that his company's net assets per share are more than 32p while British Land's offer price is a maximum of 183p cash.

Meanwhile, Stylo is continuing to buy freehold properties where ever it can, no doubt making its property portfolio,

last valued at £52.66 million, even more attractive to British Land.

About 75 per cent of the Stylo portfolio is freehold and the fact that retail property is the darling of the property market at the moment make Stylo look a good proposition for any company set to acquire it.

Land Securities, Britain's largest property company, has announced details of the architectural competition it is to hold for the £30 million redevelopment of its Grand Buildings and Standard House in Trafalgar Square, London. The scheme will consist of office with shops in an arcade on the ground floor, but Land Securities says it will welcome the introduction of cafes and restaurants to any schemes submitted.

Entries for the first stage of the competition have to be in by June 10, and no more than 10 finalists will be selected for stage two. Each finalist will receive £10,000.

Raeburn Investment Trust plc

- Total return to shareholders 30.2%
Earnings up by 14.4%
Dividend increased by 13.1%
Net asset value at all-time high

The objective as a general trust is to achieve an above average total return for shareholders derived from both capital gain and dividend income. If approved, the final dividend will represent the 15th consecutive annual rise and an increase of 74% over the last 5 years.

Table with 2 columns: Results and 2 columns of values. Rows include Gross revenue, Earnings per share, Proposed dividend for year per share, Net asset value per share, Net total assets.

Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with 3 columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES. Includes FT 100, Dow Jones, Nikkei Dow, Hang Seng, Amstar, Sydney AD, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, Paris CAC, Zurich, S&K General, London fixings, GOLD, RISES, FALL, and INTEREST RATES.

COMPANY NEWS

FINDHORN FINANCE: The board is discussing with its bankers, the trustee of its loan stocks and other interested parties, to replace Tomatin by one or more distillers or other parties engaged in the Scotch whisky trade with whom a similar type of trading agreement would be negotiated.
CATTLES (HOLDINGS): Through its subsidiary, Roschys, the company has agreed with the receiver of Sherrys of Putney (Holdings) to purchase the leases, fixtures and fittings, motor vehicles and stock in trade for an aggregate consideration of £750,000 paid wholly in cash.
SILVERMINES proposed one for four scrip issue. Dividend 1R2p (1R2p) making 1R4p (1R3.5p) for 1984, payable on March 11. (Figures to 3000). Operational profit 109,396 (£29,004). Investment portfolio profits 1,982,627 (£45,786 losses). Assoc 2,597,110 (£341,751). Pretax profit 4,689,133 (£284,969). Tax 2,477,167 (£1,278,781). Extraordinary debit nil (£77,210). Earnings per share 20.37p (9.39p). Shares 108 up 4.

WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including Dow Jones Industrial Average, various stock prices, and market indices.

Dow nudges record

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Shares continued to rise in heavy trading in early trading on Wall Street. The Dow Jones industrial average rose more than 8 1/2 points to above 1,284 - 3 points below the record closing high of 1,287.20, reached on November 29, 1983.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including Rubber, Sugar, Lead, Wheat, and other agricultural products.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table of money market rates and gold prices, including Treasury bills, Euro-currency deposits, and gold prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies including the British pound, Japanese yen, and others.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts such as three-month sterling, three-month eurodollar, and US treasury bonds.

APPOINTMENTS

Standard Oil Company, Ohio: Mr Richard A. Bray formerly a corporate senior vice president and president of Sohio Petroleum Co. has been appointed an executive vice president of Standard Oil and will also be nominated to the board.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts including 1984/85 and 1985/86 data for various trusts.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table of sterling spot and forward rates for various maturities.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various currencies.

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

Large table of authorized unit trusts listing various funds and their performance metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts including 1984/85 and 1985/86 data for various trusts.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of other sterling rates for various currencies.

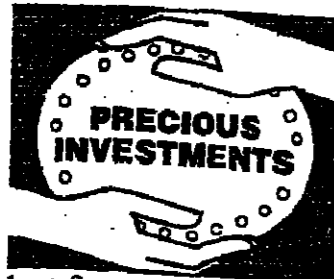
COMPANY NEWS

● BAT INDUSTRIES: West German acquisition goals include business in the consumer finance service area and in non-food retailing but no plans exist to buy a bank.



In part one of a three-part series, Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent, examines art investment

# The fine art of asset appreciation



Stocks and shares, the traditional choice of hopeful savers, have improved dramatically in the

last few months, even with periods of volatility. Despite the recent sterling crisis the City's investment parlours are booming. But there are other options...

Alternative investments, as against purely cash assets, have been out of fashion for the last five years. But works of art, stamps, gold and precious stones, as well as a whole range of collectors' items - have always had a great attraction for those who want to enjoy their money as well as make more of it.

There's a basic investment appeal: these assets are portable, tangible, and there is an international market. Gold has always been a bolt-hole when times are hard or politically uncertain. Whether your taste is a small Renoir on the wall or an emerald around your neck it can be enjoyed, which is more than you can say for a British Telecom share certificate.

"Alternatives" and "collectibles" enjoyed a boom in the late 1970s, when prices soared to ridiculous levels as speculators sought an escape from inflation. "Basically the problem was speculators, used to buying or selling for a quick profit," says David Bathurst, chairman of Christie's.

Now the speculators, many of whom got their fingers burned are out of the market. Many prices are considerably lower than they were in 1980. Gold has been a notable casualty. The price is a little over \$300 an ounce compared with a previous peak of \$850.

Any decision of the government to do something about unemployment, as opposed to inflation, will mean a rise in the value of non-cash assets. So contrary investors may be thinking about putting some of their money in alternatives, not necessarily for a quick buck but for current enjoyment, a good hedge and long-term appreciation in value.

"I am never keen on people buying art just as an investment," says David Bathurst. "It should be bought primarily for personal enjoyment. On the other hand it's clear that over the past few years really top quality art has shown a very large increase in value in the salesroom. Below that, in the much larger middle-market

On November 11, 1975, Christie's offered for sale in Geneva a magnificent pair of silver *jardinières* and stands which had been made in Paris in the 1720s by Louis XV's own accredited silversmith, Thomas Germain. The handles of the *jardinières* were realistically-sculpted as bears' heads and the objects stood on cloven silver hooves. They realised £364,000 and were quickly tucked away in a bank vault. Seven years later the J. Paul Getty Museum of Malibu, California, acquired them from the auction purchaser for a rumoured two million dollars. They now glitter prominently among the Getty treasures.

The reason for the sale was the revolution in Portugal of 1974. Following the military coup of April 25, bank accounts and bank safes were frozen to prevent capital flooding out of the country. The rich - and some were very rich - were left with no liquid assets to keep up their houses and pay their servants.

The only solution was the sale of art treasures. Clandestine removal vans began to bribe their way across the frontier carrying superb 18th century French furniture, silver and Chinese porcelain. The very best tended to find its way to Christie's in Geneva, a useful entrepot centre where no questions are asked.

Portuguese merchants were among the first Europeans to trade with China, Japan and the East. They found their way to Africa to be immortalised by the Benin sculptors and shared with Spain the rich pickings of colonising Latin America.

By the 18th century Portugal was a very rich country. The king was Thomas Germain's most important patron outside France, though most of the silver he purchased was destroyed in the Lisbon earthquake of 1755.

Much the same could be said about the art market. As David Bathurst points out: "One ICI share is exactly the same as another. In the art market each object is unique."

Year	Old Master	Impressionist Paintings	Chinese Ceramics	Continental Silver
1975=100	100	100	100	100
1976	111	105	107	159
1977	128	131	114	181
1978	154	173	133	241
1979	217	224	173	353
1980	253	256	206	462
1981	244	199	222	459
1982	251	199	253	460
1983	278	217	258	445
1984	302	251	317	482



Packaging a fortune: This Raphael sketch (left), Louis XV silver *jardinière* and 5cm-long Japanese netsuke duck are examples of the ideal, albeit high-priced, investment - maximum value in minimum volume

The Getty surens were bought in Paris in the second half of the 18th century by the Portuguese ambassador, the Marquis de Melo e Castro. They remained in the family and were exhibited in Paris at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in 1954 as the property of Mme T. de Melo e Castro de Vilhena.

Christie's naturally enough did not reveal which member of the family smuggled them out of Portugal for sale. But their fate was characteristic of the post-revolutionary period.

A number of old families whose prosperity in the 18th century had enabled them to acquire the richest furnishings available at that time, when French taste dominated Europe, found themselves in the 1970s forced to sell the family treasures in order to survive.

The usefulness of art as a medium for storing wealth and carrying it across frontiers has been appreciated throughout history.

The French revolution proved a boon to James Christie's fledgling auctioneering firm in London. He sold Madame du Barry's jewels and quantities of other art treasures "recently arrived from France". They were snapped up enthusiastically by the aristocratic collectors of the period and are now looked upon in Britain as our "national heritage".

One of the curiosities of recent years has been the flow of



icon paintings out of Russia. Indeed, they have travelled out to the West in such quantities that the market has been flooded and prices have collapsed. The reason is not that icons are particularly easy to transport; painted on often quite thick board they are much heavier than canvas paintings and easily damaged. They have left Russia because they are reasonably easy for an ordinary Russian citizen to acquire.

The wealth disguised as art that flows across frontiers after political upheavals tends, thus, to reflect what art had been created or collected in that country in more peaceable times. No thought has generally been given to which art could prove most easily transportable in a crisis. People just grab what's there.

The Iranian revolution provides an interesting example of the worst way of collecting in a politically unstable situation.

Huge petrodollar fortunes were made in Iran in the 1970s and the Empress Farah Diba set a fashionable example of art collection, stocking and opening no less than five new museums. But collectors, the Empress included, concentrated on Iranian art, notably Qajar paintings and 19th century lacquer, whose value collapsed with the revolution.

The first lesson in buying art as an alternative investment is thus to choose art forms with an international following rather than merely a national one.

Works of art should also be small or easy to transport - the maximum value crammed into the minimum volume.

Japanese netsuke carvings, for instance, are ideal and already being bought in some quarters. They were originally made as buttons or toggles for attaching a pouch to a belt. Measuring only a few inches, they had to be compact with no uncomfortable projections, but tremendous artistry was lavished on them.

An 18th century wooden carving of a duck, only five centimetres long, was sold at Sotheby's for £48,400 last October. This was an exceptional price but examples worth over £1,000 are easy to come by.

Netsuke were carved both from wood and ivory and it is worth noting that ivory should be avoided. Most Western countries are now signatories to an international convention on endangered species and there are tight controls on trade in ivory products. Both import and export licences are required by most countries.

Works of antiquity, and excavated material in general should also be avoided because of the UNESCO convention, to which most Western museums subscribe, banning the purchase of goods without a documented provenance. It is aimed at preventing illegal excavations which destroy historic evidence

for the sake of treasure hunting. Such excavations are prevalent in countries around the Mediterranean and in Latin America, and make a lot of money for smugglers. Sotheby's and Christie's regularly offer for sale pottery and bronzes whose lack of history is highly suspicious.

Bronze is best avoided on quite another count, the danger of bronze disease. The disease is particularly likely to strike pieces that are wrapped up and stored in an enclosed space.

In contrast, Old Master drawings present ideal opportunities. One flimsy sheet of paper can nowadays be worth millions of pounds. A black chalk sketch of a man's head by Raphael was sold at Christie's last summer from the Chatwin collection for £3,564,000. That is not an everyday occurrence but there are plenty of drawings in the £5,000 to £10,000 bracket.

Drawings are also an area of very specialised expertise. You would be unlikely to run across a customs man who knew the difference between a £50 drawing and a £50,000 drawing. If the transfer of assets is aimed to be clandestine, however, it is wisest to keep away from top priced items. They tend to be recorded in books and well known to scholars.

Old Master prints, or even modern prints, have an advantage over drawings on this count. They can be just as valuable as drawings but since a print is a multiple they are much less likely to be identified and traced. A folio of Picasso prints, many of which are worth over £10,000 each, would be one of the easiest and most anonymous ways of packaging a fortune. He made an awful lot of prints.

The new market in photographs, whether historic 19th century pieces or the work of 20th century art photographers, offers even more anonymous opportunities. A Charles Sheeler silver print of 1939 entitled "Wheels" made 67,100 dollars at Sotheby's in New York last year. It is unlikely that any customs man would have looked twice at it.

Books and manuscripts don't look much, are virtually undetectable and a lot of value can be compressed into a small volume. A seven-page essay of Albert Einstein secured 38,500 dollars last year while the manuscript of Mahler's first symphony in D major made £143,000.

**TOMORROW**  
Paper assets: Stamps, bearer and busted bonds

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

### Bargain hunters and American interest pull back share value losses from £7bn

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Another interest rate increase to prop up sterling demoralised stocks yesterday. The general election result was known. The Heath resigned on the following Monday. But yesterday the FT 30 index, as it did in 1974, closed above its worst level. At the final count, Datastream estimated that £4,000 million had been wiped off share values with the FT 30 index down 24.9 points at 977.9 points.

Two weeks ago, the index stood at 949.3 points and subsequently experienced its biggest ever closing fall (£4,500 million) before surging above the 1,000-point mark for the first time.

The previous largest closing loss was experienced last October when the FT 30 index fell 27.9 points after a breakdown in the pit strike talks and oil price worries.

Government stocks were at one time down by as much as £4. Gilt dealers suspended trading for 45 minutes to work out prices. At the close there were falls of up to £23.

The 2 percentage points base rate increase, which means that 4½ points have been added this year, has lifted base rates to their highest for three years. But market men were questioning whether even the latest advance would be enough to rescue the sickly pound in the wake of the oil price turmoil.

There was undoubtedly widespread, often panic, selling yesterday morning. Blue chips speculation mounts that many of the quick-fire stockbroking marriages with banks and jobbers are entering a bickering stage before divorce. Latest to attract the rumour is Fielding Newson-Smith, where County Banks, National Westminster's merchant banking arm, has 5 per cent. Fielding's Mr Philip Curtis said last night: "It makes me very cross when rumours like this get about. If you had been at the County Bank annual meeting today you would have known it is absolute nonsense."

suffered a devastating onslaught. But bargain hunters appeared and some institutional investors took the view that the falls had been overdone and started mopping up the odd line of stock.

A firm Wall Street opening and the arrival of some American investing interest prompted the near 20 points rally from the low level.

The more broadly based FT SE share index, at one time down 45.5 points, closed 22.2 points down at 1265.8.

Oil shares were at the centre of the stock market whirlpool in the morning, dropping several pence on early news from the Opec meeting which suggested no hope of an agreement on a price structure. Then the market got wind of more encouraging noises being made by the Saudis, and prices turned better.

But there was more bad news to come: the Nigerians appeared to be causing problems and then the United Arab Emirates showed readiness to walk out on the talks. Oil share prices in London again fell back.

Later, yet another rally took place, and by the close the leading shares were showing reduced losses. British Petroleum was down 11p at 505p, Britishair down 7p at 203p, Barmah 10p lower at 214p, Enterprise Oil down 6p at 177p, Lasso 13p off at 330p, Shell 11p lower at 705p, Tritonair slipped 3p to 188p and Ultramar fell 7p to 198p.

But while the Opec problems caused prices to falter, some analysts were looking to the sector to provide good growth through 1985. At De Zeeuw & Bevan, Mr Ian Watts reckoned BP was a buy at this level. "In the short term, the price is ready to move through the 550p level, and by the end of the year it could easily be over 600p," he said.

J Sainsbury defied the market trend, rising 18p to 334p, yet another peak for the shares. American investors continue to demand the stock, while jobbers are desperately short of shares.

## STOCK MARKET REPORT

### Share prices show resilience. William Low unchanged at 560p, Morrisons Supermarkets gained 2p to 198p, Normans Group went 1p higher to 82p and Albert Fisher eased 1p to 123p. Other retailer shares were several pence lower.

Electricals, still smarting from last week's profit warning from Rasel Electronics, had another wounding session. Rasel, which stood at 288p ahead of Thursday's figures announcement, plunged 16p to 196p at one time before setting at 202p.

Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman purchased 40,000 shares on Thursday - 25,000 at 208p and 15,000 at 224p.

Other electricals hit included Thora EMI, at one time 25p off at 424p, and Standard Telephones and Cables, down 24p to 240p before rallying a little. Wholesale Following, down 50p on Friday following figures, lost another 25p to 245p. Amstrad was one bright spot, up 4p to 72p.

USM newcomer Synapse, a computer group, survived the slump. It achieved 210p against a 174p placing price by Simon & Coates, the stockbrokers.

S & W Berisford was among those hurt by the hike in interest rates. Analysts worked out that, in the past month, rate rises have added around £23 million to Berisford's borrowing costs, on an annualised basis. While the final tally is unlikely to reach that figure - as long as interest rates fall back again during the year - the City leaped 8p off the shares, taking them to 173p.

Rank Organisation showed special nervousness ahead of today's full-year figures. Henderson Crosswhite, the stockbroker, cut its forecast back to around 190 million and the share price dipped to 308p at one stage before steadying at 312p, down 16p on the day.

Grand Central Investments, the plantations group, continued its revival, rising 2p to 11p. Market men are excited about prospects for compensation to the company from the Sri Lankan government. Since

last week the share price has virtually doubled.

F H Tomkins, the industrial company being built up by Mr Greg Hutchings, felt the market chill, losing 6p to 155p. Brokers are beginning to think the shares comfortably rated for the time being.

L D H Group, the renamed Lowland Drapery Holdings, showed good form against Shares of Spalax Television Holdings, the video group, eased 1p to 85p yesterday. Mr Gordon Curtis, the former Belhaven Brewery chairman, who is bringing the Crown International video business to the USM in March, has denied market suggestions that he intends to bid.

Yesterday's trend. The shares rose 3½p to 16½p following weekend comment on prospects at the Glasgow-based company.

Recent American buying has extended to Air Call, the USM-quoted communications service. Morgan Guaranty Trust Co, the New York bank which has led the American attack on Throgmorton Street, holds 6 per cent of Air Call for its clients. But the British company found it hard to respond to the news yesterday; the share price followed the market trend down to 418p, down 10p on the day.

Elsewhere on the USM lists, Acorn Computers stayed weak, slipping 2p to 42p, having touched 41p at one stage. City men are still concerned about earnings prospects at the company, given uncertainties about sales for micro-computers currently, and about Acorn's need for further product development.

Michael Page Partnership fell back 30p to 345p after Friday's announcement of an agreed merger between the recruitment consultancy and Addison Communications, also listed on the USM. Addison shares lost 15p to 250p.

## TEMPUS

### Hillards rings up profit rise despite the coal strike

The management of Hillards will be following the developments in the miners' strike with more than a passing interest. As an independent supermarket chain operating 41 stores within a 140-mile radius of Leeds it has found itself exposed more than most to cut-backs in spending.

The company is reluctant to quantify the cost of the strike, but yesterday's interim results showed that there had been a 2 per cent fall in volume in real terms, a large part of which was attributable to the dispute.

Price inflation added 5.2 per cent to sales and new stores another 8.7 per cent, but the lost volume meant turnover only increased in total by 11.9 per cent.

Despite these problems Hillards was still able to push interim profits up from £3.3 million to £3.6 million. However, profit margins slipped back slightly - a function not only of the miners' strike but of the intense competition.

As the national chains press ahead with their ambitious store opening programmes it is inevitable that in some areas saturation point will be reached. Eventually there will be casualties. Hillards is confident that it will not be among them. It has never been afraid to cut its prices and the move to bigger stores allows it to compete more effectively on product range.

Hillards' future will depend on its ability to resist pressure from the national chains and its success in finding the right sites for its new stores.

The aim is to increase store opening from two to three a year. These might seem relatively small numbers, but it is a major cost in the context of Hillards' finances. It is a cost, however, which must be incurred since the company's growth depends on these new stores.

Newspaper shares suffered in the holocaust although they closed off their worst levels. TV shares flickered through the gloom. TV South gained a few coppers to 138p on its results and HTV and Scottish TV improved on a stockbroker's circular.

The company should be able to finance most of the expansion from its internal cash flow, although some borrowings increase cannot be ruled out. However, given that suitable

Full-year pretax profits of £2.3 million against £1.86 million look likely, putting the shares on a prospective price-earnings ratio of only seven, assuming 45 per cent tax. With the present state of the construction industry, the shares are unlikely to outperform, but are supported by a prospective yield of 8.2 per cent.

Upward rather than downward margin pressure is a problem suffered by a few companies, including the Norwegian mini-computer manufacturer Norsk Data. Higher investment in 1985 is Norsk's answer to its rising profitability. Last year it made 230 million kroner (£22.6 million) pretax, a rise of 60 per cent, on revenue 53 per cent higher. Over the past five years average annual compound growth rate in taxable profits has been 79 per cent.

Norsk Data, which is quoted in London, Oslo, Stockholm and New York's Nasdaq over-the-counter market, is seeing such explosive growth in some markets that it is rationing its efforts to sell its products. It is concentrating on Germany, Britain and France and turning its back on the US for the time being. Europeans care more about quality, that is software. Norsk says. As Norsk put a high 75 per cent of its research and development efforts into software, Europe is its chosen market. Scandinavia accounts for 65 per cent of sales, but Germany at 13 per cent and Britain at 10 per cent are rising fast.

The new emphasis now, to keep Norsk's nose in front of its many competitors, is end-user orientation. In other words let the customer make the decisions and do not foist a system on him he may not need or like. Norsk believes its computers are easy to use and it is now working on integrating its software to make it all compatible.

The shares initially rose, but ended up with the market down 25p at £39.37½.

Base London Rates

# Why do we press the wrong buttons?

The British have an unrivalled propensity for self-destruction. The UK home-computer market - proportionally the largest and one of the busiest in the world - sampled that national characteristic first-hand last week as it did a poor training network preparing the unemployed for jobs in industry.

Chris Curry, one of the co-founders of Acorn Computers, makers of the BBC Microcomputer and the Electron, expressed his exasperation at the destructive behaviour of some critics in the computer industry and the City as his company came under attack and rumours spread about its prospects. Visibly upset, he rebuked his critics. He said "It is a curious and perverse trait of the British to build something up and then immediately attempt to knock it down; to minimize our own successes while magnifying our competitors' achievement. Deriving these self-inflicted wounds can have no other result than to give our foreign competitors an advantage, which is particularly self-defeating in this instance since the British computer industry has been - and continues to be - one of the great British success stories of today."

Such criticisms in themselves will not allow the Japanese to storm the

home computer market, a feat which they have come nowhere near accomplishing. It is an odd failure because five years ago it was expected that the Japanese would either dominate the market or be one of the main forces in it.

They have singularly failed to market their MSX microcomputer range on any significant scale in the UK.

## THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent

However the British should be proud of their performance.

Much of that success must be credited to a government policy designed to encourage microcomputers in schools. There is no scheme on a comparable scale anywhere in the world. It was to be the only policy in the IT sector adopted by the Government which proved to be a success. More than £14m has been given in the form of a 50 per cent subsidy to secondary and primary schools since

1981, ensuring the spread of the technology. The problems Acorn face - and they may be substantial if it cannot continue to produce equipment in the face of strong competition from Sinclair - is one issue. Predictions that the British home-computer bubble has burst is another.

A report on the home computer market published last week by stock-brokers Wood, Mackenzie & Co was decidedly more bullish. The report concluded: "Good growth in real disposal incomes over the next two years should provide the basis for overall spending on home computers to continue to rise sharply. We forecast spending at £590m (up 27 per cent) this year and then £750m (up 27 per cent) in 1986. Unit sales growth will be nominal, however. Rather, we expect further rises in average unit value to £225 by 1986 and further increases in the proportion of spending directed towards peripherals and software."

"From 1986 onwards, the replacement market will become increasingly influential in the market's development."

Home computers are now a major consumer-electronics product on a par with television and hi-fi. Did we ever assume that once people had bought

television 20 years ago and the latest record player then the consumer-electronics market was saturated and ready to burst?

There is no reason for the British home-computer market not to emulate that of the television industry. Certainly there will be increasing competition from abroad; products must drop in price and become more innovative, simpler to use and more reliable. They are all phases through which the television industry has evolved.

The week finished the way it had started with the self-destructors in full cry. On the same day that the junior industry minister, John Butcher, called for a new alliance to be forged between employers and employees, the Government and the educational establishment to help solve Britain's skills crisis, the Manpower Services Commission announced the closure of 29 skill centres.

A report last summer highlighted the critical shortage of engineers. The new study of last week called for measures to help increase the output from training schools from 3,000 technicians a year to 6,000. In that light the MSC decision is stupid and illogical.

Can you ever doubt our ability to self-destruct?

### Open letter to the boardroom

## Can you afford your DP staff?

How effectively is your organisation using its computer resources? If you are typical of most in the UK, the answer is probably "not very". To be honest, your data processing (DP) department is probably in something of a mess. What would your answers be to these questions?

1. Are your business staff so fed up with waiting for computer systems, that they they now no longer bother to ask for new ones?

2. Do your DP staff cost a fortune, even though they do not seem to produce very many new systems?

3. Do many of your systems need fundamental changes as soon as they are delivered? 4. Are you constantly being told by your DP staff that, although the information you require exists within the computer files somewhere it will take weeks to write the extraction program to analyse and combine it all for you?

If your answer to most of those questions is Yes, I have a sack most of your programmers, and start using new methods in producing your computer systems.

The methods used by your DP department are probably hopelessly out of date. In fact, the productivity of your DP department is almost certainly quite appallingly low. Do not get me wrong, the department is almost certainly staffed by dedicated, hard working people, but just consider these facts:

Your programmers are probably using the same "pen and

paper" methods as they were 15 years ago.

There is probably basic computer support available for the day-to-day work of every department.

The methods used by your DP staff usually produce systems that are totally unacceptable to the people who will need to use them.

Most computer systems are still designed in the same way as they have always been. DP staff visit a particular department, spend some time looking at the computer support needed, then go away and produce a detailed "specification" for the proposed system, get users to agree to it, and finally, often as much as a year later, deliver the required system.

Unfortunately, this method is flawed: business staff never know what they need from a computer system, the "specification" is written in a technical language they fail to understand, and during the time needed to produce the system, the business environment often changes anyway. So it is little surprise that, when the new system is delivered, it just does not meet the needs of business staff, and requires immediate and continuing correction.

This failure to involve business staff effectively in the design of their own computer systems is the primary reason why DP departments waste upwards of 80% of their time in "maintaining" (more precisely, correcting) old systems. Often, any errors perpetrated during the initial design of a computer system take an inordinate amount of time to correct.

Fortunately, there are now available a whole range of new methods and tools which can help to prevent such errors. These methods rely upon the use of a new range of software system development tools, which have been given the generic name "fourth generation". Their essential feature is that they facilitate the use of design methods which allow business staff to become directly involved.

Perhaps the most important feature of these new tools is that they can be used to automate much of the work which is now performed by computer programmers.

Fourth generation tools enable 400-500 per cent improvements in the productivity of DP departments. As for the "sacked" programmers, fourth generation tools allow them to use their talents much more effectively.

## IBM on line for cashless shopping

By Kevin Peatman

In company with British Telecom, IBM is about to be awarded a contract to develop a major network for electronic cashless shopping by the Committee of London Clearing Banks, according to industry sources.

The company is already a major supplier of computers to the London clearing banks. Of the Big Four only the Midland uses equipment from another manufacturer for its main accounts computers. It uses Burroughs, but is expected to move to IBM in a £50 million replacement plan.

The network will provide electronic funds transfer/point of sale services between the banks and shops. It would link retail terminals directly to the computers holding bank customers' accounts. Sales could be charged directly to customer accounts. For the banks it would mean a tremendous fall in the volume of paper that is shuffled around the financial system and an improvement in the speed of recording transactions.

IBM and BT had emerged as the leading contenders, but ICL, fresh from its success with the Article Numbering Associ-

ation's Tradenet network made a late bid.

IBM is also providing network services to a group of seven medium-to-large building societies through a company called Eft Ltd and it plans to launch a valued added network for the insurance industry. These services could go five very soon.

But a rival consortium, called the Link Group comprising 21 building societies and banks has beaten the Eft group to the market. It does not use IBM equipment, although some of the societies in the group are IBM customers. The plan is to share a network of automated machines.

IBM is not alone in its bid for a major slice of the computer-based financial services market. ICL and two US companies, Stratos and Tandem, are also keen to be major players. But most of the organizations in the financial sector are large users of IBM equipment: that company appears to have a built-in advantage.

ICL is working with the Anglia Building Society to provide point of sale services in Northampton, and is well advanced on other schemes.

## Robot boldly goes where no man can

From David Watts, Tokyo

A project team from Tokyo University and engineers from the Toshiba Corporation have developed a mobile robot which can carry out inspection and maintenance tasks in factories, chemical plants or nuclear power plants where human access is difficult.

The robot can move inside the plant according to a pre-memorized "map" by using sensors to check its position and direction. When there are obstacles, the robot can swiftly recognize and avoid them or automatically change its course yet reach the original goal.

It is composed of three basic units that correspond to a human's eyes, hands and feet with an integrated control system that uses a newly-developed robot language called AMORL. Its "feet" are four freely movable individual wheel systems each of which incorporates three small wheels. On a level surface the robot moves by simply rotating the small wheels - to surmount an obstacle or to go up or down stairs of up to 22 centimetres deep the larger star-shaped wheel units are rotated.

The robot, which is curiously named Amooty, a combination of the surname initials of the six professors in the faculty of engineering at Tokyo University, can also vary its wheelbase. The manipulator, which has a grip and can be fitted with a number of other tools, can adopt up to 84 postures. To recognize its environment quickly the robot has visual sensors which combine a television camera and a laser beam. It uses the TV camera to recognize simple symbols along its route and relate these to its position.

The robot's position in relation to obstacles and walls is gauged by projecting a laser beam at them, detecting the reflected beam with the TV camera and measuring the intervening distances on the basis of size and profile.

Hitachi claims that all such "smart" robots in the past were limited in their abilities because of lack of mobility or working capacity. The firm believes theirs is the first to meet industries needs, representing a considerable step forward. But they admit Amooty itself will need further refinement.

## Take a WP lesson, Miss Smith

By Geoffrey Ellis

Fewer than one in three temporary word processing operators are competent to fill the jobs they are sent to, claims a report commissioned by Kelly Girl, a leading temp agency.

Kelly Girl spent more than £7 million on developing a computerised assessment system based on aircraft flight simulator technology.

The Kee system developed in the US by a company specialising in training aids is based on a central processing unit to which is added a keyboard appropriate to the WP it is emulating. There are keyboards available for the IBM Display-riter, AES and Wang.

An illuminated display, showing the keyboard, is added to the machine and prompts to the operator are illuminated. Not only will the new system allow the company to make a firm assessment of job applicants after a 30 minute test, but clients will be able to send staff to train on the systems which, claims Pat Brady, vice-president of European Operations, enable a beginner to master a word processor within four hours.



## American lift-off for BTel

Apollo astronaut James Lovell is going into partnership with British Telecom to sell a version of BT's highly successful communications system in the US. Lovell, now vice president of the Centel Corporation, will be marketing the City Business System, aptly renamed Touchdown, through his company. He hopes to sell 20 million dollars worth in the next 18 months.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

When a coloured monitor is not just pie in the sky

Q. I am thinking of using an IBM PC or a compatible machine and want to know if it is worth paying the extra for a colour monitor?

WORKSHOP

A. It depends on personal taste and software. Some software is designed to exploit colour and can look bad on a monochrome screen. Some people find it difficult to read coloured text and prefer the steadiness provided by a good monochrome monitor - which is an important factor if word is to be a major activity. However, colour can enliven business graphics, such as pie-charts.

This week Workshop looks at the colour problem and dips into the electronic mail. HEDLEY VOYSEY will answer questions in this column on all aspects of business and personal computers. Write to: Workshop, Computer Horizons, The Times, Box 7, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1R 8EZ.

Is it worth buying an electronic mail system?

If you want to improve the productivity of dispersed sites, the solution is to rent an established public system service. If you intend to provide a service within a single building, electronic mail more usually appears as a side-effect of linking a number of desks which already use terminals or PCs.

This type of system is popular because it is almost "free" because most of the basic investment has been accounted for.

The hectic growth in electronic mail use comes from firms which must transact international business.

Electronic mail seems addictive and staff may demand this facility simply to be part of the key operating elite within your organization.

What is meant by the term "logic programming"? I have always thought that all programs used logic.

The aim of logic programming is to be able to use analysis of the problem as the basis for a program to run on the computer. If you examine most existing procedures you will realize that the analysis of the problem is gradually transformed into procedural statements which then form the basis for the program.

So a proper description for "logic programming" would be "logical analysis as a single-stage programming language". There already exists, as Prolog, a programming language which directly executes many statements taken from the realms of predicate calculus logic.

Since there are forms of logical analysis which do not fit

into Prolog, the easy answer to your question would be to say that logic programming is a splendid idea awaiting implementation, but that would be only partially true.

Should I listen to friends with professional computing experience who have warned me against buying the Apple Macintosh for basic personal computing?

Your friends probably mean that you should go for sub-hardware that offers the greatest available software options. The IBM PC sits at the top of the pile: although the Macintosh software catalogue is growing.

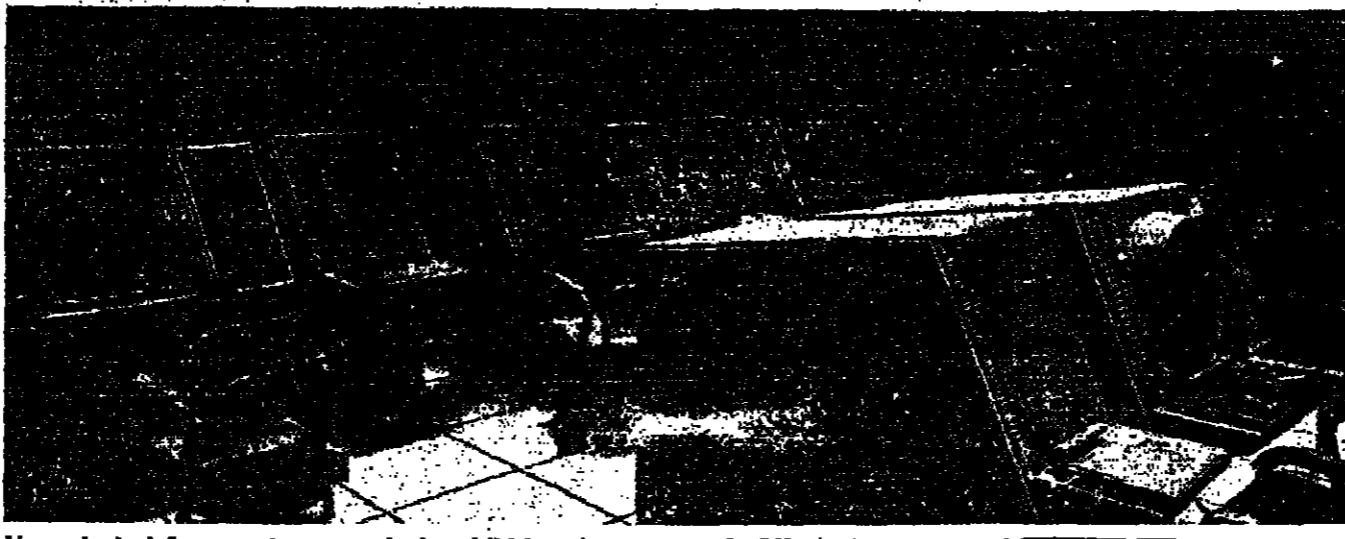
For some applications you will need to add extra main store to the basic Macintosh at a cost of about £800.

Software is becoming available for the IBM PC which will make it behave in a Macintosh-like manner.

If computing is "user-led" within an organization, does it inevitably lead to users creating all the main systems themselves?

When users build their own systems it is generally referred to as "end-user" computing. However, end-user computing is not what is meant by "user-led" computing.

Main users, however, may fail to examine the impact on a small sector of users who have a subsidiary connection with the system. The job of the computing professional is to see that minority groups are considered during the design stage.



Yesterday's defence equipment, today's exhibition piece: part of the US air-defence control room now in the computer museum

Britain's Oliver Strimpel goes to US computer museum

By Geoffrey Ellis

One of this country's top experts in the history of computing, Dr Oliver Strimpel, has become the first curator of a new museum in Boston dedicated to computers. Formerly head of the Department of Mathematics and Computing at the Science Museum, South Kensington, Dr Strimpel was responsible during his time there for staging the popular IT Year display, and the innovative Seeing The Invisible exhibition at the National Museum of Photography in Bradford.

He is frank about his Massachusetts appointment, saying that he would have been happy to undertake a similar project here, but as with so many similar ventures, funding is scarce, and the opportunity presented by the Boston Computer Museum, the first of its kind, was too good to miss.

The museum, in the city that houses both Harvard and the MIT, is in a 100-year-old, waterfront wool warehouse, giving 55,000 square foot of space.

The electronic dinosaurs of yesterday rub shoulders with today's micros, minis, artifacts, audio-visual displays and a magnificent reference library. Nothing illustrates better the huge advances in the development of computing, than comparing a massive machine, dating from 1945, built around a series of vacuum tubes and taking up 3000 square feet, with today's machines, with even the most powerful taking up little more space than a domestic freezer.

The nucleus of the museum was the massive whirlwind



Dr Strimpel with Dr Gwen Bell, the museum director

vacuum tube machine, which was rescued from the scrapheap by Kenneth Olsen, president of Digital Equipment Corporation and Robert Everett, president of the Mitre Corporation, both of whom had worked on the machine, the first real-time parallel-vacuum-tube computer with a core memory which, after taking five years to build, filled a whole building at the MIT in Cambridge, Mass.

Ken Olsen gave it a home in his Marlboro, Mass headquarters and in 1979 it became the first exhibit in the museum funded by Digital. In 1982 the museum became an independent non-profit organization, funded by the general computer industry and after 12 months preparation, moved into the new premises in Boston Harbour.

One of Dr Strimpel's prize exhibits is the computer used by the Apollo astronauts to navigate their space craft and lunar lander, which is now fitted with a working simulator. In another display, the largest computer ever built, the 175 ton SAGE is recreated in the role which it fulfilled from 1958-1983, that of the US Air Force air defence system, processing and displaying on huge screens, every aircraft movement in US airspace.

Digital joins Intel to arrange IBM-fit

Digital Research and Intel has announced the development of System Software which will bring IBM PC-compatibility to Intel's latest computer processor, Geof Wheelwright writes.

The development of Digital's concurrent DOS-286 disk operating system for the Intel 80286 processor means that IBM's new PC-AT computer will now be able to run all IBM PC applications. Using IBM's system software the AT could run only some PC programs.

The wider implications of the move are that other hardware manufacturers, such as Acorn and ICL, both of which plan to use DOS-286 in their new business machines, can now offer IBM software compatibility on their new machines without having to use the ageing IBM PC design or the dated 8088 processor chip.

If other manufacturers take out licences for the software, DOS-286 may set new software standards for the business microcomputer industry.

The system software also allows the computer to do several jobs at once, as well as allowing a number of computer terminals to share the facilities of one large microcomputer - abilities known in the field as multi-tasking and multi-user capabilities.

Digital's recently announced Gem product, which is picture rather than text based, will also be available for use with the new operating system. This opens up the possibility of a wide number of machines which operate like Apple Macintoshes, have the ability to run the huge array of off-the-shelf IBM PC software and yet exercise innovation in their design.

UK events

Apricot and Strix Computer Kensington Town Hall London, February 5-7 (01 241 2354). ZX Microfair, Alexandra Palace, London, February 9 (01 801 9172). International Trade Show for Home Computers, Software, LETS Olympia, London, February 17-19 (0523 777000). International Computer Graphics User, Barbican, London, February 19-21 (01 480 1851). PC Trade Show, Barbican London, February 25-28 (01 837 3659). DEXPRO Europe, 1985, Olympia 2, London, March 6-9 (01 582 9256).

Overseas

MEXCOM, Mexico City, Mexico, February 25-28 (Inquiries: 01 379 7629). Computer Conference and Exhibition - INTERFACE, Atlanta, March 4-7 (Mass 02194). Personal Computer Show, Sydney, March 13-16 (01 486 1851). Personal Computer Show, Amsterdam, March 21-24.

Apple wants a bite of corporate market

From Matthew May, Cupertino, California

Apple Computers' fourth annual shareholders meeting, held here last week was quieter than last year's which heralded the launch of its Macintosh computer. Yet with videos, pop music and a laser show it was a strangely flamboyant way for the company to announce its wish to move heavily into the conservative world of the corporate-business market for micro computers - a field in the grip of IBM with its PC personal computer.

So far sales of Apple's innovative Macintosh computer - for which the company claims 1984 sales of 275,000 - have been overwhelmingly to individuals and educational establishments. Its decision not to follow the popular route of designing a computer that will run the huge range of software written for the IBM PC has meant having to build its own related software while alienating many business users who believe any micro in corporate use must be able to integrate with IBM equipment.

But with the need for a share of the corporate market paramount for many micro manufacturers hoping to continue expansion, Apple's chairman, John Sculley, now admits "We have to adjust to the IBM world". At the shareholders' meeting the basis of a network to be called AppleTalk was announced. It will allow the

connection of up to 32 Apple computers or peripherals to each other and eventually will include the ability for its products to be linked with IBM PCs and the established Ethernet network. However a central-storage system known as a file-server, and needed in a local area network, if it is to be used efficiently, will not be available from Apple until much later this year although some systems will be available from other makers.

Apple has also announced a \$7,000 printer called Laserwriter, which can produce near-typeset quality text and high-quality graphics - and can connect to IBM compatible personal computers. Both AppleTalk and the Laserwriter are expected to arrive in the UK around June.

Time for an IT ministry?

The Government should consider establishing a new ministry, devoted solely to IT, to concentrate both minds and resources, says David Baldwin, managing director of Hewlett-Packard. In announcing recent figures for the UK arm of Hewlett-Packard, he said creation of an IT ministry should be accompanied by a reorganisation of the educational system, and the promotion of engineering, to enable the new industries to recruit trained workers in sufficient numbers, which it is unable to do now. He said lack of education in the use of IT in industry means that there is at present a wastage of £800m each year by companies lagging in the implementation of IT.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Korean made

Korean-made 256K D-RAM chips are soon to be marketed worldwide, according to a report in the Korean Herald. The Samsung Semiconductor and Telecommunications Co has already distributed samples to 76 clients worldwide and is awaiting their approval before producing in volume in May.

Tokyo teaching

Tokyo students are using desktop computers and programmed lessons in an experimental system educators hope will make learning more individual and more fun. The Tokyo Metropolitan Educational Research Center has developed a new learning system which combines commercial portable computers and printed learning cards. Operating on four small batteries, the computer's screen displays eight lines of 40 characters each.

Irish coup

Ireland, whose electronics industry employs 22,000 people and accounts for 35 per cent of the country's manufactured exports, has attracted its biggest investment in this field. Californian-based Advanced Micro Devices is to invest £144 million in the construction of a green field factory at Greystones, Co Wicklow, which next year will produce microprocessors, telecommunications and memory products. The new plant will create 650 jobs.

Reader guide

For those trying to decide which business micro to buy, two recent books neatly complement each other in assisting to make the decision. Business Micro Benchmarks, edited by Peter Bright, covers 18 of the most popular makes, ranging from the Sinclair QL to the Lisa. It is published by Century Communications and costs £7.95. Selecting Business Software by Ed Berman and Leslie Dewhurst (Frances Pinter, £7.95), is a clearly written book which covers the major brands of software for word processing, financial modelling, spreadsheets, payroll and sick pay.



"I was caught with my fingers in the financial database"

Another chance to win your school an ABC

Though the closing date for The Times Network for Schools Competition was announced as Thursday January 31, the organisers have decided that because of snowy conditions in some parts of the country and requests from schools which had to close temporarily, it would be fairer to extend the closing date to Thursday February 14.

So you have another two weeks to win an Acorn Electron and for your school one of the first Acorn BBC Business Computers.

You do not have to be a member of TTNS or have any knowledge of computer programming in order to take part. The competition is open to all students aged 11 to 18 years.

What you have to do is devise an imaginative and original curriculum-related project for TTNS, making the best use of its main features, which are because of snowy conditions in some parts of the country and requests from schools which had to close temporarily, it would be fairer to extend the closing date to Thursday February 14.

Write your idea on a single sheet of paper, using no more than 250 words. Include your name, age, address and telephone number, together with the name and address of your school. Send the completed entry to: TTNS Corporation, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1 8EZ, to arrive by Thursday, February 14.

Advertisement for VUMAN COMPUTER SYSTEMS LTD SENIOR SALES EXECUTIVE. The company is wholly owned by the University of Manchester, specialises in the supply of computer systems for scientific and educational institutions. VUMWATER, has become one of the standard word processing systems in use in educational institutions throughout the UK and overseas. Vuman holds copyrights for ACT and Acorn computers plus a wide range of peripherals and has established itself as a major force in computing in the North West. The company is planning a significant expansion in 1985 and will be searching a number of new products including CAD systems, specialist systems for the pharmaceutical, plus educational software for BBC computers. They are seeking to recruit a person who will be capable of making major contribution to the success of the new products and will continue to expand sales of VUMWATER. The person appointed will be expected to engage level or equivalent and will receive a growth track route to the sale of computer systems. Experience in the planning of product launches and effective use of advertising media will be advantageous. Salary will be in the range £11,000 and a company car will be provided. Applications in writing, marked confidential, including a detail CV should be sent to: The Managing Director, Vuman Computer Systems Ltd, Crawford House, Prospect Centre Oxford Road, Manchester M3 3JF.

Computer Appointments Computer Sales Dubai O.T.E. £25,000 Tax Free. A major UAE group of companies handling the Burroughs distribution seeks an energetic young salesman to develop new business with a wide range of clients in commerce and Government. The area offers great potential for growth and success with an early possibility of a management position. Knowledge of Burroughs equipment and applications would be a definite asset and overage. Roland Orr & Partners Management Consultants 35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB Telephone 01-734 7282.

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Nicholas last of Luton's signings

Peter Nicholas, Crystal Palace's Welsh international midfielder player, who was £250,000 transfer to Luton Town.

The Luton manager, David Pleat, said: "I've always believed that you must get the piece of a team right. Nicholas is the last piece of the line down the middle of our team after the arrival of the goalkeeper, Andy Dibble, Steve Foster at centre half, and Mark Hartley at right back."

Pleat said that he did not want to sell players after spending around £500,000 on strengthening his team in the last two months. "I wouldn't really be happy to sell any player from my first-team squad member. I'm looking for more competition for places," he said.

Nicholas, who had two years with Arsenal, watched Luton beat Huddersfield Town in the FA Cup on Saturday. He will make his debut against Tottenham Hotspur this Saturday.

Neville Hamilton, the Wolverhampton Wanderers defender, aged 24, who collapsed with a heart attack during a training session, has been told he must quit the game. Hamilton moved to Molineux in the summer on a loan transfer from Rochdale, and he was the first signing of the manager, Tommy Docherty.

After a series of tests, he has been told he has a heart abnormality. "I feel tragedy for him because he has been so short," Docherty said. "When I saw him play at Rochdale, I knew straight away he was a player I wanted to sign."

A committee of enquiry have decided to take no action against Wolverhampton for the pitch invasion during their home game with Leeds United last month.

Bristol City have rewarded their manager, Terry Cooper, with an additional 12-month contract, taking the club to promotion from the fourth division last season. It ties him to the club until the summer of 1987.



Bring on Liverpool: That is the York players' delighted reaction after hearing the fifth round draw.

Prospect of Goodison trip for Telford

Telford United will tonight attempt to become only the fourth non-League team since the war to reach the fifth round of the FA Cup. The last surviving non-League side in this season's competition travel to the only fourth division team left, Darlington, in the fourth round, entertaining the rich prospect of a meeting with the holder, Everton, on February 16.

Telford will have to do without the services of their third round match-winner, Mark Hancock. The defender scored the 87th minute goal that put out the third division leaders, Bradford City, in the last round, but he is suspended and replaced by Halton.

Keeley, the Blackburn Rovers central defender, has finished the two-match suspension for their first round game with Mansfield Road tomorrow. But Blackburn's plans have been affected by an injury to their left stand tickets to tomorrow's FA Cup fourth round replay against Nottingham Forest. The match is not all-ticket.

Sunderland will again be without the suspended trio of Bennett, Gayle and Hodgson for tonight's League match at Southampton. Their manager, Ken Ashurst, however, is able to call upon his recent signing Agboola, cup tied in last week's Milk Cup win at Watford, to fill his former colleagues at the Dell.

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York's reward is a plum tie against Liverpool

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Botham Crescent is threatening to overshadow the Minutes as York's most famous landmark. The name of the arena is already familiar in this country after Arsenal's FA Cup defeat there on Saturday, and it will spread far across the Continent should Liverpool suffer a similar fate there on February 16.

York City began the competition by beating the Saints and are expected to end it by going out to red giants who are feared throughout Europe. Nobody from Lisbon to Moscow would believe that the outcome of the fifth round draw would be anything other than a Liverpool victory. Liverpool's manager, Joe Fagan, would claim otherwise.

"Football is full of surprises," he says, "but the Cup can produce shocks."

York provided the freshest evidence, but the current form of Fagan's side, as television viewers will have seen for themselves during their win over Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday afternoon, would suggest that a seismicograph will not be required at the third division ground. If the two clubs who have knocked out London's leading lights have been drawn together while Fagan was still searching for a replacement for Soaness, Yorkshire's optimism might have been more justified.

Even if York do gain entry, they have a tough, equally awkward road ahead. They must impress the deadly Rush, who, as Tottenham discovered, has regained his sharpness. If they allow him to move into the game, the result is almost certain to be costly.

Liverpool are the new joint favourites with their Merseyside neighbours, Everton, who have conceded one goal in the last 960 minutes in the competition and in defence of their trophy have yet to be challenged by first division winners. They entertain the winners of tonight's delayed fixture between Darlington and Telford United.

The odds against Manchester City are 10-1.

Belgians barred from the national team

Brussels (Reuter) - Belgium's football association has barred the return to the national squad of two former internationals implicated in a bribery scandal last year.

The committee of enquiry have decided to take no action against Wolverhampton for the pitch invasion during their home game with Leeds United last month.

Bristol City have rewarded their manager, Terry Cooper, with an additional 12-month contract, taking the club to promotion from the fourth division last season. It ties him to the club until the summer of 1987.

Venables goes on the attack

Terry Venables's Barcelona extended their lead in the Spanish league to nine points with an easy 4-0 home win against Betis Sevilla. Real Madrid could only draw 0-0 at Santander and slipped to third place behind Atletico Madrid.

But, as his team moves inexorably towards the championship, Venables exorcises the foul from Spanish football and putting its defenders at a disadvantage when they have to play outside Spain. If he had his way, he would see players automatically sent off for such a foul, to the great benefit of the Spanish game, he says. He would also like to see three points for a win, to encourage a more positive attitude.

The French league is off and running again, at last. The major confrontation was between Nantes and Bordeaux as the leaders, before a crowd of 45,000. Bordeaux won 2-0. West German international, Dieter Muller, after 35 minutes, following confusion in the Nantes defence between the French internationals Bossis, the Milan Tenhampten and Bihard.

In Italy, Internazionale (Milan) did better at home to Verona 2-0. Sunday, holding the southerners to a goalless draw, where Verona lost their unbeaten record. But Verona, after a long, negative run, at last managed to win, 2-0, at home to modest Ascoli, which gives them a point lead over Liam Brady's team. Torino, however, stayed in the race with a 1-0

win at home over the newly-promoted Cremonese.

For Lazio, whose president is Giorgio Chinaglia, once their centre forward, disallowed a stunning 4-1 defeat at the Olympic Stadium by Odinese, who were minus Zico. What do Lazio do now? They have already sacked their manager and brought back the 62-year-old Argentinean, Juan Carlos Lorenzo. Last season they escaped relegation by a whisker on the last day of the season because they had had the better to their two matches with

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL RESULTS

Table of European football results including Greek, Dutch, Spanish, and Italian leagues.

Bruce loiters and with deadly intent

By Gerry Harrison

Norwich City 1 Birmingham City 0

An undistinguished goal of disputed origin ended seven hours of relentless cup combat. Always exciting, though rarely exciting, Birmingham, of the second division, were a hurdle Norwich were glad to clear at the fourth attempt and they now move on to the fourth round of the competition.

The match was a tactical affair, with Birmingham's opening giving the impression that both sides were making an attempt on the Oxford City-Allchurch FA Cup record of 11 hours of combat. Norwich, still without a goal, were the more active side, and although Birmingham buzzed around, doing well to get Roberts, Hopkins and even Platener forward to support the front men, they mustered only two chances.

Things changed dramatically in the tenth minute. Mendham's free kick was cleared to Downs, who headed straight back into the penalty area. Bruce, a defender loitering there in intent, checked the ball down and hooked his shot over Seaman's shoulder, a last-minute deflection by Geddis making matters no easier for the Birmingham goalkeeper.

The goal did little to improve the good mood of the Birmingham supporters, who had repeated infringements and irritable tackles breaking the rhythm. A shot from Geddis, immediately after the goal,

was Birmingham's only dangerous moment of the first half despite their continued hard work.

Cautions for Cannon and Day were a natural sequence of events, although it was a surprise to see Cannon shoot so wildly over the bar just before half-time.

Wright's fiercely struck free kick, agilely turned over the bar by Woods, signalled the end of attacking play from Birmingham at the start of the second half. But despite fighting a rearguard action for most of the time, Norwich should have moved easily into the fourth round through two counter-attacks on the hour.

First-Mendham ran out off half-way, then headed on his own, then Bruce headed over an open goal from four yards. Norwich have scored more than their own goal in their last 12 games here they were living dangerously.

The Stoke City midfielder, Alan Hudson, who has been troubled by illness this season, is to see a specialist about a chest infection. The problem may be hereditary because Alan suffered a lot as a child. Just lately he has picked up more flu symptoms than the whole of the club put together.

RESULTS

Table of football results from various leagues including the Football League, Scottish Premier, and others.

FIXTURES AND FORECASTS

Table of football fixtures and forecasts for various leagues.

DISC WHEELS ARE BANNED BY THE MILK RACE

The Milk Race has banned the revolutionary disc wheels which helped the American cyclist win his gold medal at Los Angeles Olympic Games. They will not be seen in the two-week international when it starts in Bournemouth on May 26.

Although the race director, Phil Liggett, has ruled out the disc wheels, they have not been banned by the international authority, the International Cycling Union, while he has ruled out domestic use. Liggett said that the wheels made competition unfair and unbalanced: "At the moment the prohibitive cost of such wheels means that very few can afford them," he explained. "They are worth two seconds per mile to a rider in a time trial."

ROHLR seeks the common touch in Monte Carlo

Monte Carlo (AFP) - Walter Rohlr and Christian Geistdoerfer, of the Austrian ski team, won their fifth victory, led this year's Monte Carlo rally in their Audi Quattro Sport as they tackled the opening overnight stages of the 1,700 kilometre, seven-day event.

They were coming under increasing pressure from the leading works Peugeot 205 Turbo 16 of Ari Vatanen, of Finland, and Terry Harriman, of Northern Ireland, and the all-Finnish crew of Timo Salonen and Seppo Harjanne. SKIING: Mar Girardelli, the World Cup leader, has been provisionally accepted for the World Alpine Championships in Borvita, Italy. The international federation will rule on the case of the Austrian who skis for Luxembourg today.

FOR THE RECORD

Table of sports records including basketball, cycling, tennis, and other sports.

SNOW REPORTS

Table of snow reports for various regions including Switzerland, Austria, and others.

SCOTLAND

Table of snow reports for Scotland.

SWITZERLAND

Table of snow reports for Switzerland.

AUSTRIA

Table of snow reports for Austria.

FRANCE

Table of snow reports for France.

REAL TENNIS

Radley serve up a sensation

Radley caused a sensation on Sunday when they won the Henry Leaf Schools Old Boys Cup for the first time by depositing Winchester, the winners (William Stephens writes), 15 times in the last 19 years.

Radley, who have not entered the Henry Leaf Cup for many years, qualified for the main competition by defeating Lancing, victors over their defeat in the second round, then went on to beat Eton, Halesbury and Malvern - all strong opposition - on their way to the final.

ANGUS

Angus, the former world champion and Peter Seabrook, who has represented Britain in the Bathurst Cup.

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CRICKET

MELBOURNE: Sheffield Shield: Victoria drew with New South Wales, Victoria 438 and 236, New South Wales 125 and 128, New South Wales 100 and 100, Victoria 100 and 100.

BRISBANE: Queensland: Queensland 494 and 369, New South Wales 100 and 100, Queensland 100 and 100.

BASEBALL

NEW YORK: Yankees 10, Mets 5, Yankees 10, Mets 5.

ST. LOUIS: Cardinals 10, Braves 5, Cardinals 10, Braves 5.

ATHLETICS

ROSEMONT: Invitation meeting: winners US 100m 10.8, 200m 23.0, 400m 57.0, 800m 2:00.0, 1000m 5:10.0, 1500m 4:10.0, 2000m 6:00.0, 3000m 10:00.0, 4000m 13:00.0, 5000m 17:00.0, 6000m 20:00.0, 7000m 23:00.0, 8000m 26:00.0, 9000m 29:00.0, 10000m 32:00.0, 11000m 35:00.0, 12000m 38:00.0, 13000m 41:00.0, 14000m 44:00.0, 15000m 47:00.0, 16000m 50:00.0, 17000m 53:00.0, 18000m 56:00.0, 19000m 59:00.0, 20000m 62:00.0.

PHILADELPHIA: US indoor championships: winners 100m 10.8, 200m 23.0, 400m 57.0, 800m 2:00.0, 1000m 5:10.0, 1500m 4:10.0, 2000m 6:00.0, 3000m 10:00.0, 4000m 13:00.0, 5000m 17:00.0, 6000m 20:00.0, 7000m 23:00.0, 8000m 26:00.0, 9000m 29:00.0, 10000m 32:00.0, 11000m 35:00.0, 12000m 38:00.0, 13000m 41:00.0, 14000m 44:00.0, 15000m 47:00.0, 16000m 50:00.0, 17000m 53:00.0, 18000m 56:00.0, 19000m 59:00.0, 20000m 62:00.0.

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Handshaker Reardon's calculation goes to pot

By Sydney Friskin

Ray Reardon almost shook hands a little too soon with David Taylor, whom he defeated 5-1 in the first round of the Benson and Hedges Masters tournament at Wembley yesterday. Reardon thought he had won the sixth frame and the match after potting the pink but soon realized that he needed the black as well.

"To think that I miscalculated after all these years," Reardon said, "is unbelievable. I potted the blue to get on to the pink but when I discovered that I still needed the black I played it not to have to worry. Reardon did not have to worry, for Taylor played the black and the cue ball disappeared into a pocket to terminate the match. "I can't understand it," Taylor said. "I am playing well but not in the tournament matches. I really can't explain it."

Taylor had shown signs of recovering when he cut Reardon's 4-0 lead to 4-1, but even this effort was a struggle. He led 4-3 in the sixth frame but left the yellow hanging over a side pocket for Reardon to start his winning run.

Reardon made a break of 34 on his first visit to the table. He won the second frame with a late spot cushioning Taylor's break with a break of 12. "I'm nothing, going right for Taylor," Reardon, winner of the Masters title in 1976, went 4-0 ahead.

Tony Knowles, ranked No. 2 in the world, was a minimum in an Sunday night by Doug Mountjoy, who beat him 3-3. Knowles, who has had a bad run this season, missed the chance of 'levelling' at 3-3. He was leading 4-0, missed an easy break and eventually lost 4-3. Mountjoy, who has had a good run this season, missed the chance of 'levelling' at 3-3. He was leading 4-0, missed an easy break and eventually lost 4-3.

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Buddinelgo Aldershot

Zola Budd will official Aldershot. She makes her country debut in women's championships at Chantry Park, Saturday.

Although Miss includes in the club the senior race, she runs as a guest but not in the team. She can, however, Aldershot in championships at Birkenhead, for a no such residence is on.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Bridgend in dock for late arrival

Bridgend's wretched Sunday coach journey to Leeds, which began at 8.30am, continued through a blizzard and ended an hour late at Huddersfield. The result was a late arrival, which cost the team a place in the final.

The Rugby League is bound by its own laws to conduct an inquiry into the late arrival. The inquiry will be held at Huddersfield on Monday. The inquiry will be held at Huddersfield on Monday.

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table of today's fixtures for various sports including football, basketball, and others.

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Wedding Suits, Evening Tail Suits, Black Jackets and tuxedos available to hire.

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Table listing flight destinations and prices. Includes columns for TOYKO, MANAMA, MALAGA, MADRID, etc.

SUNWORLD TRAVEL (est 1969)

Special offers on flights to various destinations. Tel: 01-736 9808

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WANTED: Good tenants and agents. Agents to be paid on successful completion of lease.

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TAX AND TRUSTS PARTNER IPSWICH. We are a substantial 15-partner firm in a prosperous and expanding part of the country.

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The College of Law LECTURER IN LAW. Applications are invited from solicitors for a post of lecturer at its Guildford branch.

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YOUNG LAWYER required for Leading Ship Owner's Protection and Indemnity Club. to work with other lawyers in the defence department dealing with charter party disputes.

Small but successful and expanding Commercial firm in Chancery Lane. with a good shipping practice, seeks two all-round Commercial Solicitors.

BRITISH MARRIAGES, DEATHS and MEMORIALS. Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender.

DEATHS. MEDCOCK. On January 26, 1985, Monica Grace, aged 66 years, peacefully at home, 29 Avenue Road, W11, beloved wife of the late E. C. Medcock.

BIRTHS. ATWOOD. On January 27th in St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James Alexander Atwood, to Mrs. Atwood and Mr. Atwood.

DEATHS. LEWIS. On January 26th, 1985, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, a daughter, Catherine Louise Lewis, to Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Lewis.

DEATHS. BARTLEY. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Bartley, to Mrs. Bartley and Mr. Bartley.

DEATHS. WOODLAND. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Woodland, to Mrs. Woodland and Mr. Woodland.

DEATHS. BROWN. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Brown, to Mrs. Brown and Mr. Brown.

DEATHS. GREEN. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Green, to Mrs. Green and Mr. Green.

DEATHS. WHITE. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James White, to Mrs. White and Mr. White.

DEATHS. BLACK. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Black, to Mrs. Black and Mr. Black.

DEATHS. GRAY. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Gray, to Mrs. Gray and Mr. Gray.

DEATHS. BROWN. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Brown, to Mrs. Brown and Mr. Brown.

DEATHS. GREEN. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James Green, to Mrs. Green and Mr. Green.

DEATHS. WHITE. On January 26th, 1985, at the Westminster Hospital, London, a son, James White, to Mrs. White and Mr. White.

USP-CARIBBEAN. New York 2499, Barbados 2299, Port of Spain 2399. Tel: 01-439 9682



Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 6.00 Cerefax AM. 6.30 Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Nick Ross. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 7.40 and 7.50; regional news at 7.25, 7.57 and 8.27; plus a review of the morning newspapers; a recipe from Glynn Christian, and phone-in gardening advice from Alan Frimshaw.

TV-am 6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Jayne Irving at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.59 and 7.29; exercises at 6.59 and 9.20; Brian Poole's romances at 7.16; Popeye cartoons at 7.23; pop at 7.42; Joni Barnett's postbag at 8.41; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.40; cooking advice at 9.05.



Charles Lawson: Four Days in July (BBC 1, 9.25pm)

YOU WANT ME TO BE DIRTY AND FAT (BBC 2, 9.25). This week's edition of Doctors' Dilemmas, is about anorexia, the wasting disease most familiarly manifested in the revision fall by the sufferer at the thought of food.

CHOICE probing into the ethical quandaries in which doctors can find themselves. The vital question posed by tonight's film, in which an 18-year-old girl, 5ft 4in tall, has dwindled down to 45lb, and is in danger of dying, is this one or the other of two available options to the doctor (some say dehumanizing) hospital treatment to which the girl is subjected?

UDR patrol pouncing on a suspect. The fact that the only substantive thing inside his van is a rabbit, and that the suspect's flow of half-baked historical facts cannot be stammered, indicates the nature of the rest of the film which is only tangentially political and essentially domestic.

Bestwestern's String Trio in G major, Op 9 No 1 (Grunnius/Janzar/Czako). Smet's Petite Suite. Jeux d'enfants (Chabrier/Nationale de France) 1, 8.00 News.

1951 film in conversation with William Keegan, of The Observer. Last of three programmes. 10.00 Jazz Today: Charles Fox presents the Ian Bellamy Quartet.

9.00 Cerefax 10.30 Play School, presented by Kate Copstick (r) 10.50 Cerefax. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCauley 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.

ITV/LONDON 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Propositions. For the hearing impaired. 9.47 Larks: the number 3. 9.59 The ways children grow. 10.17 The house of familiar creatures. 10.31 Schoolchildren in the German town of Celle. 11.02 Learning to read with Basil Brush 11.15 How animals wash themselves 11.32 The need for exercise and sleep 11.49 How fruit is stored.

BBC 2 9.00 Daytime on Two: a French language news programme. 9.25 Maths: drawing the line. 9.45 Maths: mirror images. 10.10 Life in a fairground. 10.25 Geography: Stevenage New Town. 11.00 The buildings of ancient Egypt. 11.17 Alice and the Axioms. 11.40 Management training schemes. 12.00 A profile of a French peasant farmer.

CHANNEL 4 2.30 The Human Jungle: Run With the Devil? The psychiatrist, Dr Roger Connor (Harbert Long), examines a member of a religious sect who believes his suffering is a punishment for his second marriage to his first wife's deceased husband.

Radio 4 On long wave: also stereo in VHF. 5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News briefing. 6.10 Farming today. 6.23 Prayer for the day. 6.30 Today's weather. 6.30, 8.30 News. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4444 - It's your BBC 4. Listeners can question Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC.

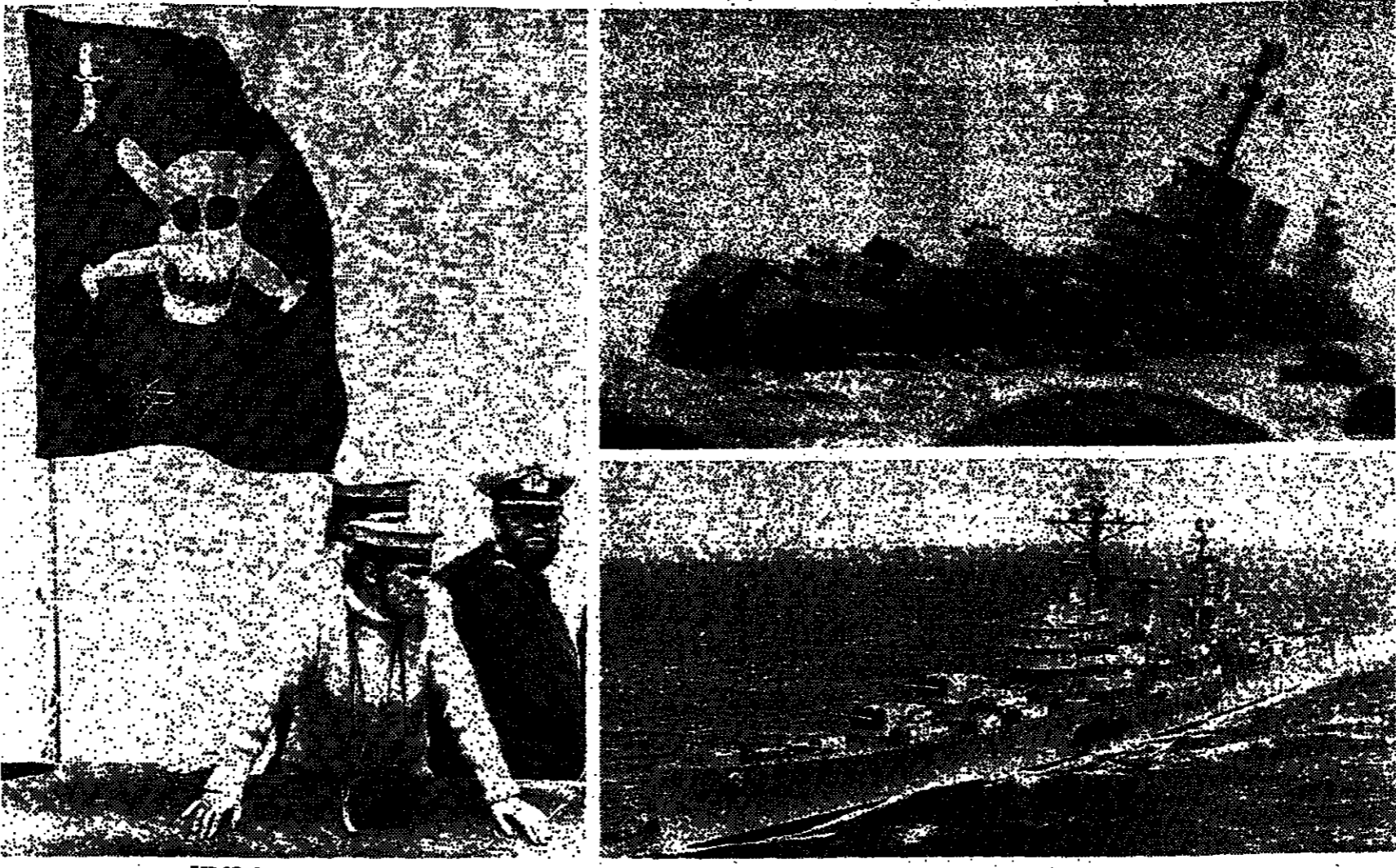
Radio 3 6.00 The Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Don't Stop Now - It's Fundamentally a Pop Cabaret! 6.50 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 File on 4. Major issues and events, at home and abroad. 8.00 Medicine Now: The health of medical care. With Geoff Watts. 8.30 A Touch of Midas? (new series). Stories of famous people who made it against the odds. This week: Michael Caine.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00pm Yorkshire Today. 1.00-1.30pm Yorkshire News. 1.30-1.55pm Yorkshire Today. 1.55-2.00pm Yorkshire News. 2.00-2.30pm Yorkshire Today. 2.30-3.00pm Yorkshire News. 3.00-3.30pm Yorkshire Today. 3.30-4.00pm Yorkshire News. 4.00-4.30pm Yorkshire Today. 4.30-5.00pm Yorkshire News. 5.00-5.30pm Yorkshire Today. 5.30-6.00pm Yorkshire News. 6.00-6.30pm Yorkshire Today. 6.30-7.00pm Yorkshire News. 7.00-7.30pm Yorkshire Today. 7.30-8.00pm Yorkshire News. 8.00-8.30pm Yorkshire Today. 8.30-9.00pm Yorkshire News. 9.00-9.30pm Yorkshire Today. 9.30-10.00pm Yorkshire News. 10.00-10.30pm Yorkshire Today. 10.30-11.00pm Yorkshire News. 11.00-11.30pm Yorkshire Today. 11.30-12.00pm Yorkshire News. 12.00-12.30pm Yorkshire Today. 12.30-1.00am Yorkshire News. 1.00-1.30am Yorkshire Today. 1.30-2.00am Yorkshire News. 2.00-2.30am Yorkshire Today. 2.30-3.00am Yorkshire News. 3.00-3.30am Yorkshire Today. 3.30-4.00am Yorkshire News. 4.00-4.30am 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The Ponting case

Trial not about spying but lying, jury told

Clive Ponting, a senior civil servant, admitted to the police that he sent two confidential documents about the sinking of the Argentine ship, the General Belgrano, to Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.



HMS Conqueror returning to port after the sinking (right) the General Belgrano before, and as she went down.

her comments on the "serious discrepancies" between the Government's version of the sinking and statements made in two new books on the affair.

one on April 1 when Mr Ponting was present as well as Mr Heseline.

Most of this information is unclassified and the whole thing has been blown up out of proportion. But he said he would not have sent the documents.

Judge bans television re-creation of trial

Continued from page 1. The judge's order, made without any representations having been made by either counsel for the prosecution or the defence, was challenged later in the day by lawyers for Channel Four.

- April 2: Argentine forces occupy Falklands
April 30: Sonar contact made with tanker escorting the Belgrano

- May 2: Changes in rules of engagement signalled from fleet headquarters. Rules cover total Argentine fleet
3.00pm: HMS Conqueror receives garbled transmission
5.00pm: Message decoded
8.00pm: Belgrano sunk, outside total exclusion zone

Mr Amlot said Mr Ponting, who held the OBE and was a member of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, headed a group advising naval chiefs of staff at the time the select committee on foreign affairs was investigating the Belgrano affair.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: The Prince and Princess of Wales visit Alton Towers Limited, Mid-Glamorgan High-Tech Science Park, Bridgend 10.25; and the Bridgend College of Technology, 11.45; and later the Prince of Wales, President, The Royal Jubilee and Prince's Trusts, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, visits the premises of recipients of Youth Business Initiative bursaries in Mid and South Glamorgan, 2.40.

Work by Robert Matta: Graves Art Gallery, Surrey St, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Feb 24).

Gallery, Broad St, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent: Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 8 (ends Feb 16).

Last chance to see Night Trick by O. Winston Link: MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr, 11 to 5.

Music: Recital by Virginia Rushton (soprano) and Marton Raper (piano); Handlertown Town Hall, 1. Organ recital by Harry Bramma; Leeds Town Hall, 1.05.

General: '85 exhibition: Winter Garden, Eastbourne, daily 11 to 10pm (ends Feb 2).

Anniversaries: Births: Emanuel Swedenborg, Stockholm, 1688; Daniel Berrupoli, mathematician, Groningen, Netherlands, 1707; Thomas Palma, Theford, Norfolk, 1737; Frederick Delius, Bradford, 1862.

Aid for Ethiopia: Contributions for the Ethiopian famine relief should be sent to Oxfam at 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,647. A grid with numbers 1-27 and some letters filled in.

Answers to the crossword puzzle. 1 Quiet approach for a progressive party (5,5). 2 Walk out on the sands (6).

TV top ten: National top ten television programmes in the week ending January 13. 1 Coronation St (Wed), Granada, 20.50m.

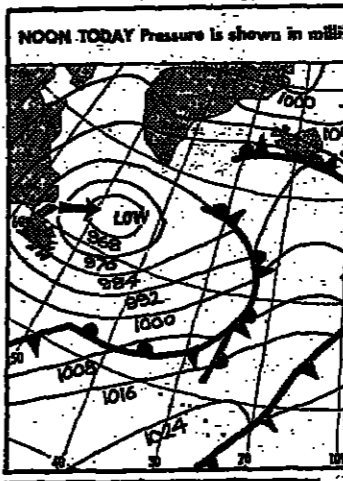
Portfolios: Portfolio - how to play Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

The pound: Bank of England's base rate is 12.5%.

Snow reports: Depth (cm), Conditions, Off piste, Runs to resort, Weather (5 pm), °C.

Weather forecast

A trough of low pressure lying N to S across the country will clear away E, being delayed in S districts.



Lighting-up time: London 5.15 pm to 7.12 am. Manchester 5.16 pm to 7.28 am.

Highest and lowest: Yesterday's highest day temp: Queensry, 11.0 (52°). Lowest day temp: Cromer, 5.0 (37°).

High tides table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, JT.

Around Britain table with columns for location, Sun Rain, Max, Min.

Abroad table with columns for location, C, F, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun.

High tides table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, JT.

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